



COUNTY
CHURCHES



NORFOLK





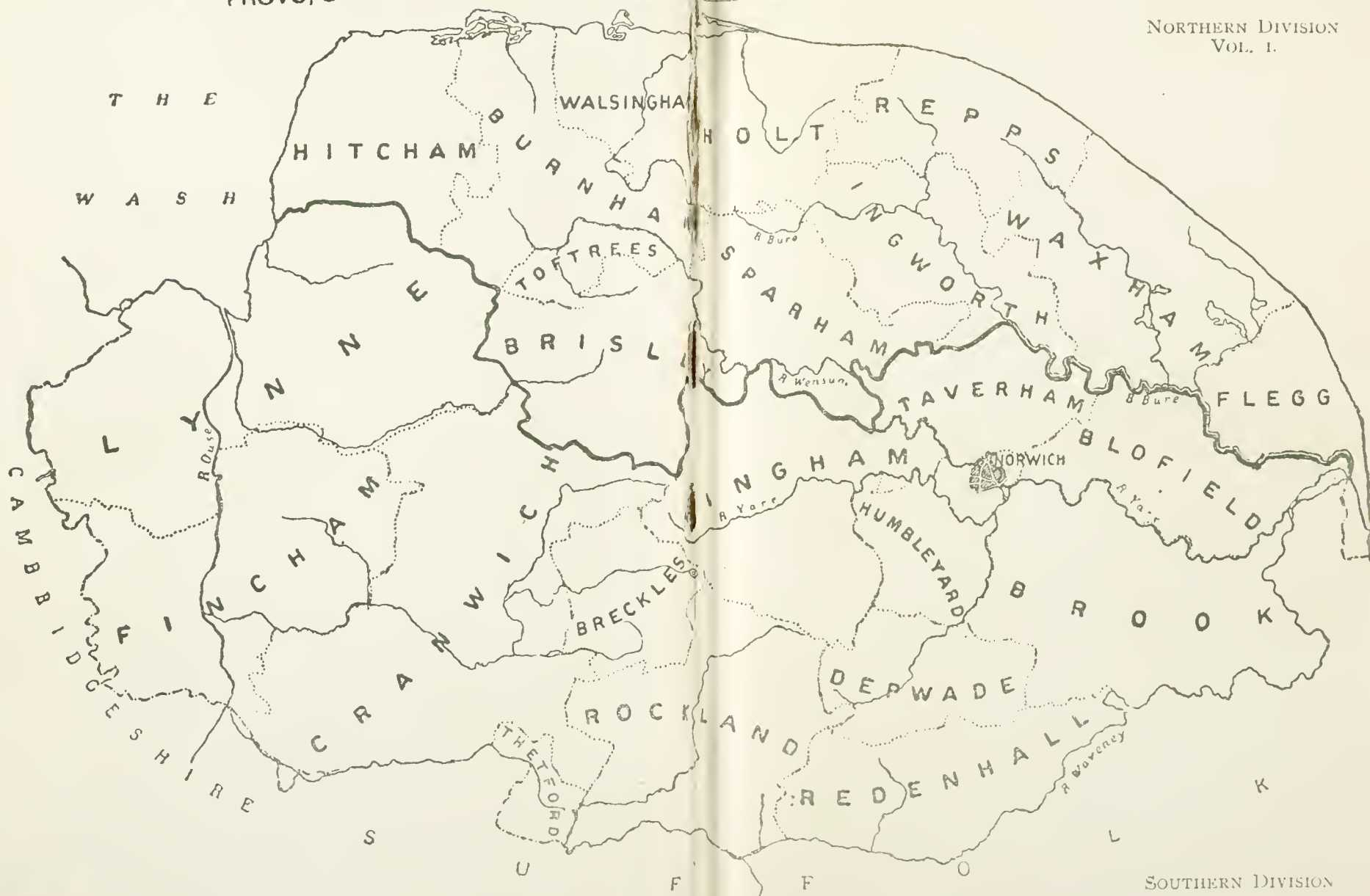
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COUNTY CHURCHES



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Vol. 1

NORFOLK

BY

J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A.

Author of "Sanctuaries and Sanctuary Seekers of Mediæval England,"
"Churches of Derbyshire" (4 Vols.), "English Church Furniture,"
"Royal Forests of England," "How to Write the History of
a Parish" (5th Edition), "Parish Registers of England,"
Etc. Etc.

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I

NORTHERN DIVISION

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

SECOND EDITION REVISED AND EXTENDED

LONDON
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PREFACE

THE chief difficulty in putting together these notes on the churches of Norfolk arises from the fact that the old parish churches number upwards of 650; it is therefore obvious that the greatest compression has had to be used to include them within the limits of two small volumes. It would have been a far easier task to have written at much greater length, but as the chief object of this series of "County Churches" is to produce comprehensive, handy guides at a modest price, it was necessary to impose exact limits. In several of the deaneries, including all those on the coast line from Yarmouth to Hunstanton, my own manuscript notes, taken on the spot, are, on an average, fully five times as long as those printed in these pages, and it has been most puzzling to know what it was best to omit or to curtail.

With regard to condensing, it may be remarked no brasses or other monuments are named later than the 16th cent., save in certain cases of particular moment. There are few details of old church fabrics more

constantly met with, and more readily understood by mere novices in ecclesiology, than piscinas or piscina niches; they are not, therefore, named, unless of special interest. The same may also be said of holy water stoups in porches or by entrance doorways.

It is pleasanter to read "thirteenth century" rather than "13th cent.," but the latter style and its equivalents have been adopted on the score of brevity. For the like reason, the cardinal points are indicated by initials, and abbreviations are adopted for the architectural terms Norman, Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular. For my own part I should have much preferred, as in the case of some other books that I have written, to drop altogether the two last of these terms, for there is no doubt that they are singularly infelicitous and misleading; but I have yielded to the advice of several experienced friends. By Early English, roughly speaking, I mean work of the reigns of John and Henry III.; by Decorated, work of the first three Edwards; and by Perpendicular, work from Richard II. to Henry VIII. inclusive.

The initial dates of church registers are for the most part taken from the *Key to the Ancient Parish Registers of England* (1908), by my friend Mr. A. M. Burke, confirmed in various instances by my own first-hand knowledge, and in other cases by direct communication with the

clergy. Directories not infrequently blunder in this matter. I may perhaps also be allowed to draw attention to my own book on *Parish Registers of England* (1910).

I fear it may seem presumptuous to several of the experienced ecclesiologists and antiquaries of Norfolk, that an outsider to the county and diocese should have undertaken such a work as this, notwithstanding its brevity and cursory character. But I can fairly claim to have a good general knowledge of Norfolk churches, as well as appreciation of their beauty, value, and interest. I first made a Norfolk visit of any duration as long ago as 1864, and I still possess notes that I then took of about a score of churches in the Hunstanton district. Norwich, Lynn, and Swaffham were the centres of other visits made in the "seventies" of last century, and East Dereham and Attleborough in the "eighties." At subsequent dates I made summer sojourns on the Broads, and at several coast towns and villages, whilst in 1902-3 I made pilgrimages to the sites of the whole of the Religious Houses of the county, preparatory to writing the history of them for the second volume of the *Victoria County History of Norfolk*.

I had the good fortune to enjoy for many years the acquaintance and friendship of the late Canon Manning, with whom I visited several of the leading churches of the county. On one

occasion I was fortunate in visiting such churches as Worstead and Ranworth in company with that master of English Gothic architecture, Mr. Francis Bond. In Dr. Bensly of Norwich, the late Registrar of the Diocese, whose recent death is so much regretted by not a few outside the county, as well as by every ecclesiologist and churchman within it, I lost a good and kind friend of many years' standing. It is a sad pleasure to be able here to record my slight testimony to his invariable courtesy, and my tribute to his great knowledge, which was so readily imparted to others; especially as the idea of these two little volumes met with his approval when first proposed, and his ready help in several directions when they were begun.

To many of the clergy I am particularly obliged for written as well as *viva voce* communications, but I do not here mention names, as their courtesy has in each case been privately acknowledged.

To one gentleman, however, my special indebtedness must be gratefully acknowledged. Mr. T. H. Bryant has done yeoman service for the manorial and ecclesiastical history of fully three-fourths of the parishes of Norfolk in a series of books arranged under Hundreds, with which all intelligent residents of the county are well acquainted. His books have been of much

service to me, and, in his kindness, he has allowed me to see and consult various articles in a Norwich newspaper which have not yet appeared in book form. I should like to add, what will gratify not a few of Mr. Bryant's friends and readers, that I have been fortunate in securing his services for two small volumes, similar to these, on the Churches of Suffolk. My acknowledgments are also particularly due to Mr. Keyser, F.S.A., and to Mr. Beloe, F.S.A., for kind permission to reproduce excellent photographs of Norman doorways and fonts which appeared in *Memorials of Old Norfolk*.

In so large a county as Norfolk, it has been thought best to arrange the parishes under their respective old rural deaneries rather than in a continuous alphabetical order. By this plan the position of a particular group of parishes can be readily ascertained. The volumes are roughly divided into North and South Norfolk. The deaneries of the first volume are those of Brisley, Burnham, Flegg, Heacham, Holt, Ingworth, Repps, Sparham, Toftrees, Walsingham, and Waxham. The remainder, including Norwich and Thetford, are given in the second volume.

The Introduction at the beginning of this volume applies to all the county. The Index at the end of the second volume is for the whole work.

There are, I fear, sure to be some mistakes

and oversights in these pages. As an old reviewer of the books of others, and especially of topographical works, I have never yet found a book free from slips or some errors. This work has had the disadvantage, for reasons entirely beyond my own control, of passing through the press when I was away from home, and apart from all books of reference and from my own note-books. I shall be grateful for corrections.

These pages, and the series of which they form part, have not been undertaken with any idea of financial success on the part of the writers. No one but an ecclesiological enthusiast could possibly undertake so long a series of condensed notes. At the most I can but hope that they may serve as a help to church lovers when visiting Norfolk, and also possibly prove of some trifling service to resident churchmen.

PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

IN this second edition various errors, and a few lapses, have been corrected, and certain accidental omissions supplied. In this work of revision I have received most generous and detailed help from Mr. T. Hugh Bryant, and also from the Rev. C. H. Evelyn-White, F.S.A., Mr. E. M. Beloe, F.S.A., Mr. Leonard G. Bolingbroke, Mr. J. H. Bullock of Cambridge, and the Rev. John Bourton, rector of Banningham. Several other clergy and laity have written kind and appreciative letters pointing out individual mistakes. Out of a mass of correspondence, I received one letter of an abusive and coarsely exaggerated character; the writer shall, however, remain nameless.

Misled by Ecton's *Thesaurus* (1742) and by Bacon's *Liber Regis* (1786), three parishes were placed in the wrong deaneries; they have now been moved to their right position.

By an oversight the church of Attlebridge is described under Taverham deanery, to which it used to belong, and also under Sparham, to

which it was subsequently transferred. It is not a church that I have personally visited, and the two accounts, which do not exactly tally, were contributed by different individuals who were kindly helping me in the respective deaneries.

Perfection is impossible, and in dealing concisely with upwards of 650 old churches there are probably still some faults; for the correction of these I shall be grateful.

I had thought of adding in this edition to the accounts of the minority of churches which I had not myself visited the initials of those who kindly sent me the descriptions; but the idea was abandoned, as it did not commend itself to all my helpers. It therefore follows that the credit or discredit, as the case may be, is entirely my own.

J. CHARLES COX.

LONGTON AVENUE, SYDENHAM,

May 1911.

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BY J. CHARLES WALL

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THE CHURCHES OF NORFOLK

INTRODUCTION

IN considering, with the brevity essential to this small series, the parish churches of Norfolk, an initial paragraph or two must be spared as to the rise and spread of Christianity in East Anglia and the marvellous hold that it long maintained over the inhabitants. Whatever echo of the teaching of Christ may have reached the region now known as Norfolk in the days when Brancaster was the great fortress of the Romans near the entrance to the Wash, and Burgh the second of these mighty coast defences toward the entrances of the rivers Waveney and Yare, every vestige of a possible Romano-British church was swept away by the hordes of profane Angles, who gradually colonised this great tract of land after the retreat of our civilised conquerors. For some two centuries darkness covered the land grasped by these piratical Angles, whether Northfolk or Southfolk.

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Eventually this darkness was lifted, later than in any other part of England, in the 7th cent., by Bishop Felix, the Burgundian missionary, who first preached the faith of Christ in East Anglia, under King Sigebert, in 636. The church of Babingley, near the coast, between Hunstanton and Lynn, is dedicated to St. Felix, and lays claim to be on the site of the first place of Christian worship founded by the saint in this country when he landed from over the seas. Camden, in confirmation of this tradition, mentions that the surrounding high ground was known as the Christian Hills. It is also claimed for Flitcham, a little farther inland, that it takes its name from St. Felix ; a similar origin is assigned to the two Suffolk parishes of Flixton. Shernborne, a short distance to the N., still asserts, by a long-standing tradition, that it was the second Christian church of Norfolk, alleging that it was built by the lord of the soil, who was converted by St. Felix's first sermon, delivered on his landing at Babingley.

In connection with this part of Norfolk, so saturated with traditions of Felix, the first Bishop of East Anglia, it should be remembered that only a few miles farther to the N.W., nearer to the coast line, is a remarkable group of seven small churches, all bearing the name of Burnham ; they are crowded into a

small area barely four miles square, and not one of them is distant as much as a mile from the other. They are paralleled by the group of South Elmham churches within nearly as small an area close to the Norfolk border, under the shadow of the other great fort of Burgh. They remind us, too, of the various groups of seven churches in Ireland, that land of saints, and there can be little doubt that this N.E. corner of Norfolk was an early home of Christian missionary effort.

The first small simple churches of the days of Felix and his immediate successors would probably be chiefly constructed of the surface flints or of sea-shore pebbles, as was subsequently the case; but it need not be expected that anything of that date survived the fierce onslaughts of the bands and armies of the heathen Danes who first harried Norfolk in 836, and made their most serious and settled attack in 866, destroying all the ten monasteries in 870. But the sturdy, patient faith of the subject people gained the day, and eventually the new conquerors embraced with zeal the religion of their tenants and serfs. Of this there is some evidence in the very names of Kirby Bedon (with its two kirks or churches), Kirby Cane, Kirkstead, and Colkirk. The thoroughness with which the Danes of England had assimilated the faith of the land they had so largely

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conquered is shown by the fact that Odo the Good, a Dane of high birth, was persuaded in 942, by Edmund, King Alfred's grandson, to accept the archbishopric of Canterbury. It was during his primacy that there was a great revival of religious life, especially in East Anglia.

Domesday, which is never complete in such returns, records 243 churches under Norfolk.

This brings us to the consideration of early church remains in the county, more especially so far as the ROUND TOWERS are concerned. It would, indeed, be passing strange, considering the abiding character of flint, and the undoubted knowledge and use of mortar possessed by both Angles and Danes, if Norfolk was destitute of any trace of the places of worship where our forefathers gathered in days prior to the Norm. Conquest. Even the fringe of the question of the round towers of East Anglia can scarcely here be touched for lack of space. It is strange that no one has yet arisen of sufficient leisure, means, and intelligence to produce a thorough and trustworthy monograph on this subject. Meanwhile a remarkable amount of loose and utterly inaccurate matter continues to be put forth on this difficult and complex question. As an instance, it may be mentioned that Murray's substantial and costly *Handbook to the Eastern Counties* is content to make the ridiculous assertion that "they are all of

the same dimensions. Contrariwise, any one who is sufficiently interested to measure the round towers of this county will soon find a considerable divergence both in their general diameter (varying from 10 feet to over 20 feet), as well as in the thickness of the walls, and also in their original height in the few instances where this can be determined. Having visited at different times two-thirds of the Norfolk round towers, which number about 130, as well as all the 40 of Suffolk, and the 8 of Essex, the present writer has become convinced that a fair number of these towers are of 9th, 10th, or early 11th cent. construction, that the large majority are Norm., and that only a very few—a dozen at the outside—are of later date. They are built of flints, sea-pebbles, and occasional general rubble, banded together with an abundance of mortar, and are without staircases. The form once adopted naturally commended itself to the intelligence of the builders of the district, for in this stoneless region the expense and labour of seeking stone quoins for the corners—essential in square towers—were avoided.

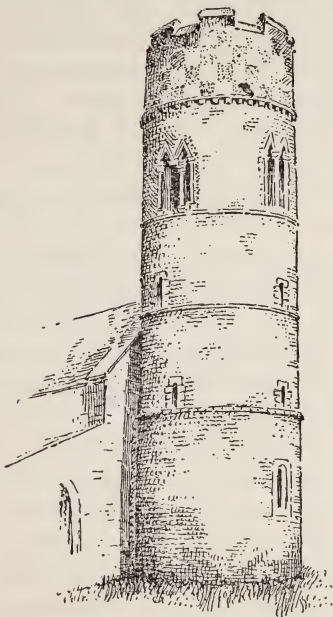
In the following list of Norfolk round towers an asterisk is placed at those instances where there are good grounds for believing that the work, or at all events the actual basement, is of pre-Conquest date; this is probably also the

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case with a few others which are unmarked. Almost all these towers were raised or rebuilt in the upper stage at later times, particularly when the fashion for rings of bells set in so strongly in the 14th and 15th cents.; sometimes the raising was continued in a circular form, but more often after an octagonal design, whilst in a few cases belfry windows of a larger size for the transmission of sound were inserted in the old masonry. In this list the name is followed by oct. where there is an octagonal belfry stage; the numerals are intended to apply to the century, giving the rough date of the period to which the belfry lights belong. Battlements of 15th cent. are occasionally imposed on 13th or 14th cent. alterations, but no notice is taken in the list of a mere crowning with a battlement.

Acle, oct., 15; Appleton, ruins; Ashmanhaugh, 14; Aslacton,* 13; Aylmerton, 14; Barmer, 13; Bawburgh *; Beechamwell,* oct. 14; Bedingham, oct., 15; Beeston St. Laurence,* 14; Bessingham,* 13; Bexwell, oct., 15; Brampton, oct., 15; Brandiston, rebuilt; Breckles, oct., 15; Brooke, 13 and 15; Burgh St. Mary, ruins; Burlingham St. Peter, oct., 15; Burnham Deepdale, 15; Burnham Norton, 15; Bylaugh, oct., 15; Catton, oct., 15; Clippesby, oct., 1875; Cockley Cley, 14; Colney, 13; Cranwich,* 13; Croxton, oct., 14; Dereham, West,

oct., brick, 15 ; Dilham, new, 1834 ; Eccles-by-the-Sea, ruins ; Eccles, 14 ; Edingthorpe, oct., 15 ; Feltwell St. Nicholas, oct., 15, collapsed,



The Round Tower, Haddiscoe

1878 ; Fishley,* 14 ; Forncett St. Peter,* ; Framingham Earl* ; Freethorpe ; Fritton, 14 ; Geldeston, 13 ; Gissing* ; Gresham, 14 ; Haddiscoe,* 14 ; Hales, 13 ; Hardley, 13 ; Hardwick, ruins ; Hassingham, oct., 15 ;

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Hautbois, Great, 14, ruins; Haveringland; Heckingham, oct., 13; Helhoughton, 13; Hellington, 13; Hemblington, 15; Howe*; Ingworth, ruins; Intwood, oct., 14; Keswick, restored 1873; Kilverstone*; Kirby Bedon St. Mary, ruins; Kirby Bedon St. Andrew, removed 1883; Kirby Cane, 14; Letheringsett, 15; Lexham, East*; Lexham, West*; Matlask, oct., 15; Mautby, oct., 13; Merton,* 13; Morningthorpe; Morton-on-the-Hill, oct., 14; Moulton St. Mary; Needham, oct., 15; Norton Subcourse, 14; Norwich, Sts. Benedict, Etheldred, Julian, Mary* (Coslany), Paul; Pickenham, South, oct., 14; Plumstead,* Little; Poringland, oct., 14; Potter Heigham, oct., 14; Quidenham, oct., 15; Raveningham, oct., 14; Repps, oct., 13; Ringstead St. Peter, ruins; Rockland St. Peter, oct., 15; Roughton*; Rollesby, oct., 14; Roydon, near Diss, oct., modern; Runhall, 14; Rushall, oct., 15; Ryburgh,* Great, oct., 15; Saxlingham Thorpe, ruins; Sedgeford, oct., 14; Seething, 14; Shereford; Shimpling, oct., 15; Sidestrand, oct., 15; Snoring, Little, detached; Somerton, West, oct., 15; Stanford, oct., 15; Stockton, 13; Stody; Stratton, Long, 13; Surlingham, oct., 14; Swainsthorpe, oct., 14; Sustead; Syderstone; Tasburgh,* 13; Taverham, oct., 15; Thorpe, next Hadiscoe*; Thorpe Abbots, oct., 14; Threxton*; Thwaite All Saints; Titchwell; Topcroft, 14;

Tuttington ; Wacton ; Walton, East, 15 ; Watton, oct., 15 ; Weeting, 15 ; Welborne ; Whitlingham, ruins ; Wickmere, 15 ; Witton near Norwich, modern ; Witton near N. Walsham, 15 ; Woodton ; Worthing ; Wramplingham, oct., 14 ; Yaxham, 15.

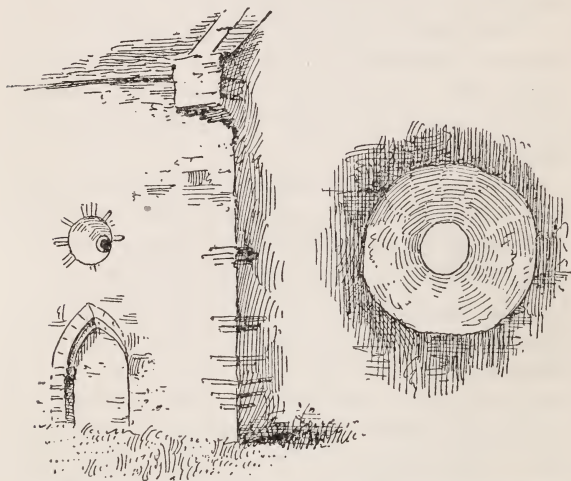
With regard to the asterisk-marked towers, it may be added that, in four or five cases, it is quite easy to detect the imposition of distinct Norman work and masonry on parts of an older fabric.

But there is a fair amount of SAXON OR PRE-CONQUEST work to be noted in Norfolk churches apart from the circular towers. In the churches of West Barsham, Coltishall, Cringleford, Framingham Earl, Framingham Pigot (formerly), Houghton - on - the - Hill, South Lopham, and Witton near N. Walsham, there are one or more of those very small circular windows or openings, never over 9 inches in diameter, but widely splayed on both sides, which are assuredly pre-Norm. With equal certainty it may be added that there are other marks of pre-Norm. work to be noted at Bradeston, Brinton, Gateley, Gressenhall, Rockland. All Saints, Weybourne, and more especially at Great Dunham.

Anglo-Saxon sculptured memorial stones, all probably of the 10th cent., have been found at the churches of Cringleford, Rockland All

Saints, Whissonsett, and on the site of St. Vedast's destroyed church at Norwich. They are fully described and illustrated in vol. ii. of the *Victoria County History of Norfolk*.

The NORMAN builders were evidently ener-



N.W. corner of church, and inner splay of Saxon window,
Framingham Pigot, 1840

getic not only in sustaining and improving the large number of churches that they found in the county, but in adding considerably to their number as the various manors fell into their hands. Important Norm. work occurs in the central towers of Attleborough, Burnham Overy,

Gillingham, Gressenhall, Melton Constable, and more especially at South Lopham. Grand Norm. arcades are to be found in the parochial naves of the conventual churches of Wymondham and Binham, and in the parish church of Walsoken. There is also remarkably good work of this period in the front and N.W. tower of St. Margaret's Lynn. Castle Rising W. front and central tower are rich late Norm., but over-restored; and the nave of St. Nicholas Yarmouth is a fine example of Trans. Hales is a delightful instance of a Norm. arcaded apse. There are other apsidal chancels at Gillingham, Haddiscoe, Heckingham, Cockley Cley, and South Runcton.

Mr. Keyser, with his usual thoroughness and wealth of illustration, has recently done good service to ecclesiology by drawing attention in *Memorials of Old Norfolk* to the large number of fine Norm. doorways possessed by this country. The usual run of visitors to Norfolk are content with the seaboard districts, and will be surprised to learn of their number and beauty, for they nearly all occur in the south of the county. The following is a list of Norm. doorways of parish churches, with an asterisk to the more beautiful and elaborate examples:—Aldeby,* Ashby,* Barton Bendish, Bawsey, Bedingham, Brettenham, Old Buckenham, Burgh in Flegg, Burlingham St. Andrew, Burlingham St.

Edmund, Castle Rising, Chedgrave,* Clippesby, Cranworth, Crimplesham, East Dereham, Great Dunham, Easton, Fishley, Framingham Earl, Fundenhall, Gayton Thorpe, Gaywood, Gillingham, Gissing,* Haddiscoe,* Hales,* Hardwick, Hassingham, Heckingham,* Hellington, Hillington, Holme by Runcton,* Horsham, Kenninghall, Kirby Bedon, Kirby Cane, Langford, Larling,* Limpenhoe, South Lopham, Marlingford, Mintlyn, Mundham, Norwich St. Etheldred, Julian, Michael-at-Thorn, Ormesby St. Margaret, Ovington, Little Plumstead, Quidenham, Roydon, Runcton South, Runhall, Shingham, Shouldham Thorpe,* Little Snoring, Thorpe Abbots, Thorpe - by - Haddiscoe, Threxton, Thurlton, Thurston, Thwaite St. Mary,* Tottenhill,* Tuddenham East, Walsoken, Wimbotsham,* Worthing, Wrampingham, and Wroxham.* The last but one of these doorways is rude and possibly pre-Conquest.

A remarkable fact about these Norm. doorways of Norfolk, as compared with similar groups in other counties, is that so few possess a tympanum or filling up of the head of the arch. They are only to be found in five churches, and three of these are quite plain ; the two which have a cross in their centre are at Tottenhill and Mintlyn. The ordinary mouldings, such as the chevron, billet, cable, or saw-tooth, are frequently met with, the first

indeed all but invariably ; but the more highly enriched doorways have mouldings which are rarely met with save in this part of East Anglia, such as the double cone, or that known as the cheese moulding, consisting of a series of out-turned scallops or semi-circles. Another unusual feature is a series of roses, or wheels studded on the hood-moulds, which is noticeable at Easton, Hales, Marlingford and a few other churches.

The large number of Norm. fonts are considered a little later, in the section where fonts of the different periods are dealt with successively.

A considerable group of EARLY ENGLISH fonts were introduced into Norfolk during the reign of Henry III., and apart from this there are more signs of architectural development in the 13th cent. than is usually supposed to be the case. There is glorious work of this period in the nave, &c., of West Walton, and of a later date in the W. front of Binham, whilst the series of lancets and the double arcading of the chancel of Burgh-next-Aylsham are of exceptional beauty. Parts of important churches, such as Blakeney, St. Nicholas Yarmouth, Castleacre, East Dereham, and Walsoken, show at once that important changes then occurred in the fabrics. The same, too, is true of the smaller churches in many districts of Norfolk. Thus at Clippesby, Filby, Repps,

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Ormesby St. Michael, and Ridlington, a group to the north of Yarmouth, E.E. development is plainly visible, whilst at the out-of-the-way little church of Horning there is dog-tooth moulding round the priest's doorway, and a 13th cent. chest within the walls.

Towards the close of the 13th cent. many of the small Norm. and Saxon churches began to give way as insufficient before an increasing and more wealthy population. Monastic agriculture and husbandry brought about an increase in flocks and herds, whilst the penetrating Broads and winding water-ways, skirting so large a number of parishes, afforded an easy means of sending produce to Yarmouth ; and the various small trading ports between Yarmouth and Lynn, such as Blakeney or Wells, supplied the inhabitants with ready facilities for the export of their wool. As the 14th cent. dawned, the Flemish - learnt linen weaving began to take firm hold in East Anglia, whilst as that cent. drew to its close woollen weaving was added to the local industries, and nowhere assumed more vigorous proportions than at Worstead and its surroundings, a little town which has apparently given an undying name to a special yarn. But this latter industry did not culminate until the 13th cent. was well advanced.

This long-sustained wave of prosperity was

strongly reflected in the fabrics of the churches by a people ready and eager to give to God of their best. The fabrics everywhere witness, to those who can read them, the energy put forth as the DECORATED style succeeded to earlier efforts, notably in parts of such churches as Diss, Yarmouth, Aylsham, St. Margaret's Lynn, Erpingham, Hingham, or Deopham, and in the whole church of Snettisham with its remarkable W. front. So, too, in the smaller churches the practised eye can soon detect 14th cent. work in fair abundance up and down the county, more particularly perhaps in the neighbourhood of the Broads, as at Mautby, Bradfield, South Walsham, Scottow, Tunstead, Salhouse, and Filby.

That terrible scourge, the Black Death of 1348-9, dealt a stunning blow at Norfolk, as it did indeed to all England. It is not only in the great church of Yarmouth that its interrupting force in building enterprise can be noted, but at Rollesby and fully a dozen other churches work of this character came to a standstill, and was only resumed after a more or less considerable interval. At Brunstead it would appear that the plague definitely stopped the fine plan of a lofty chancel harmonising with the work of the nave.

Nowhere throughout England is the vanity of attempting to classify the dates of churches

within the precise limits of the three normal Gothic divisions of E.E., Dec., and Perp. more apparent than in Norfolk. The two last of these almost imperceptibly glide into each other. Certain attributes of the Dec. style lingered in this county as late as 1450, and even occasionally to a yet later period. This is not infrequently noticeable in great churches, such as Worstead, in window tracery, as well as in smaller churches whose precise date can be ascertained from records.

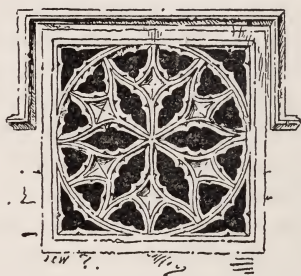
To cite one example, the nave and chancel of the church of Swanton Abbot yield fine examples of lofty 15th cent. work, with particularly good windows. The chancel is somewhat later than the nave; the date of the latter can scarcely, however, be assigned to an earlier period than 1450; nevertheless, the centre one of the three fine windows of the nave on each side is filled with quatrefoil tracery that would usually be assigned to at least a cent. earlier, whilst the flanking windows are unmistakably well-developed Perp. A study of the jambs, general proportions, wall plate, &c., will, nevertheless, at once convince every careful observer that all these nave windows must have been executed at the same time. The constant introduction of the quatrefoil, and occasionally of a continuous arrangement of quatrefoils, into almost every detail of both

stone and woodwork of the 15th cent. is a special Norfolk feature, so that the student must always beware of hastily assuming that he is looking upon Dec. work of the 14th cent. Amid the many delightful clerestories over Norfolk naves there are some with quatrefoil windows which are undoubtedly genuine Dec., but in other cases these windows were continued well into Perp. days. At Sheringham and Cley (cinquefoil) these windows alternate with pointed Perp. lights. They may be noticed at Billingsford, East Bradenham, Buxton, Denton, Filby, Frettenham, Heacham, Heydon, Morston, Rollesby, Terrington St. John's, Old Walsingham, and Weston Longville. As to their date, each case can only be judged by its surroundings; they appear to vary from c. 1340 to about the like date in the next cent.

Another particular feature of the later lofty clerestories of Norfolk churches is that they considerably overtop, as a rule, the chancel; in various instances a window, usually of three lights, is found over the chancel arch, a plan which is distinctly exceptional outside East Anglia. This arrangement has been noticed at Brancaster, Brisley, Carbrooke, Fincham St. Martin, East Harling, Hethersett, Holme Hale, Mattishall, Oxborough, Rackheath, East Rudham, Sparham, West Walton, and Whitlingham.

Nothing is more remarkable during the

PERPENDICULAR development of the 15th cent. than the fine array of western towers, in the building of which in certain districts, more especially near the seaboard, there was evidently great parochial rivalry. A peculiarity of these towers is that many possess what are termed SOUND-HOLES—that is to say, square openings filled with tracery in the stage below the bell-chamber.



Sound Hole, Worstead

The name has to be accepted, but it is incorrect, for these openings are not for the emission of the sound of the bells, but rather for giving air to the ringers. In the following list of the best of the towers, the initials "s. h." indicate these supplied with this exceptional form of window; the figures signify the height in feet of the tower:—Bacton; Banham; Belaugh, s. h.; Blakeney; Blofield, s. h.; New Buckenham, s. h.; Broome, s. h.; Carbrooke, 100; Cromer, 160; Ditchingham, s. h.; Erpingham, s. h.; Foulsham,

s. h., 90 ; Grimston ; Griston ; Garboldisham ; Happisburgh, 110 ; Hemsby, s. h. ; Hickling, 90 ; Hingham, 120 ; Illington, s. h. ; Methwold (with spire), 120 ; Norwich, St. Andrew, 96 ; St. Giles, 120 ; St. Peter Mancroft, 98 ; St. Laurence, 102 ; Oxborough (with spire), 120 ; Pulham St. Mary ; Redenhall ; North Repps ; South Repps, 114 ; Rollesby, s. h. ; Runham, s. h. ; Walsham St. Mary, s. h. ; Westwick, s. h. ; Winterton ; Worstead, s. h., 109 ; Wroxham, s. h.

There seems to have been a strong desire in mediæval Norfolk to do honour to the four Latin Doctors of the Church—Sts. Jerome, Ambrose, Gregory, and Augustine. Not only did they often appear on screens and pulpits, but they were literally exalted to serve as corner pinnacles on the summits of lofty towers. In a few instances their place was taken by the four Evangelists. On the octagonal belfry of Acle the Doctors and Evangelists used to alternate. In five or six cases large statues in this position, so unusual anywhere save in Norfolk, disappeared during last cent. and have not been renewed. They may still be noticed on the summits of the towers of Barton Turf, Barnham Broom, Filby, Gayton, Halvergate, Honingham, Horning, Ormesby St. Margaret, Ridlington, and Winterton.

Those acquainted with the fine towers of

Somerset, and of other parts of England, will miss that striking customary feature of an embattled stair-turret rising at one angle above the rest of the parapet. We can only recollect a single instance of this in Norfolk ; it occurs at Langham, in an old tower, and one other in a rebuilt tower of comparatively modern construction at Brockdish. There are but very few stone spires ; Snettisham is a graceful 14th cent. example ; Oxborough was rebuilt in 1877 ; there are other instances at Wilton, Tilney All Saints and Methwold. Of the various lead-covered timber spires—those of Tilney St. Laurence and Earsham are of a fair height, but they are mostly short, as at Great Ellingham, West Lynn, Martham, Mundford, Shimpling, Stockton, Stratton St. Michael, West Tofts, and Watlington.

One particular beauty of these Norfolk towers is the almost invariably ornamental character of the base course below the wall plate and of the battlements. The ingenuity of the builders turned the very scarcity of stone to good account. Instead of deep-cut panellings, so usual in other parts of England, the freestone which they procured, usually from Caen across the seas, was cut into thin layers of effective outline patterns, such as arcades and quatrefoils, and the spaces filled up with carefully split or dressed flints, thus producing a most effective diapering of

black and white. Particular emblems, characteristic of the dedication of the church, were frequently introduced into the ornamental work of the base and battlements of the tower. Thus the church of Burlingham St. Andrew has crosses of that apostle ; St. James's, South Repps, the cockle shells ; St. Mary's, North Repps, and St. Mary's, Erpingham, crowned M's ; St. John's, Coltishall, chalices ; St. Michael's, Cressingham, crowned M's and erect swords with wreaths ; St. George's, Saham Toney, G and M ; Sts. Peter and Paul, Fakenham, crowned P's ; Sts. Peter and Paul, Griston, cross-keys and swords ; and St. Laurence's, Hunworth, L's and gridirons. The base pattern of the tower is occasionally continued round the body of the church when they are coeval, as is the case at Martham.

This FLUSH-WORK ornament, as it is usually termed, is often much elaborated on the 15th and early 16th cent. porches, and nowhere is its beauty and extent greater than on the porch and throughout the exterior of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. It is also noticeable in the good porches of Redenhall, Bunwell, Halvergate, and the two Pulhams. Elaborate flush-work arcading occurs at Tunstead between the clerestory windows. Remarkably good Perp. work, apart from towers, flush-work, or fonts, can be studied at the beautiful Marshland

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churches of Terrington St. Clement, Walpole St. Peter, and Walpole St. Andrew ; also at St. Nicholas Lynn, North Walsham, Cley, Causton, Sall, Swaffham, Fakenham, Dersingham, and New Walsingham.

The great majority of the towers are naturally to be found at the W. end of the nave. Occasionally they are flanking towers on the S. side, the basement serving as a porch entrance ; this is the case at Briningham, Colkirk, Little Ellingham, Hardingham, Hockwold, Reepham, Sculthorpe, and Stanhoe. Central towers, chiefly Norm., occur at Aldeby, Burnham Overy, Gillingham, Gressenhall, Heacham, North Lopham, and Melton Constable. Occasionally, owing to some change in plan, or loss of part of the structure, the tower is in an abnormal position ; thus there are E. towers at Chedgrave and Flitcham. Guestwick has the tower at the E. end of the N. aisle, the aisle having originally served as nave.

Here it may be mentioned that in some towers small fireplaces and flues may be noted of early origin ; they occur at Billockby, Bradeston, Scottow, Thornage, Thrigby, and in one or two other cases ; they were probably constructed as ovens for the baking of the wafers for use at Mass.

Norfolk churches present many instances, though not so numerous as in various parts of

the Midlands and the S. of England, of LOW-SIDE WINDOWS, in the usual place on the S. side of the chancel near the nave, and occasionally on both sides. Antiquaries and ecclesiologists still differ as to their object, but all of average intelligence have abandoned the modern and absolutely untenable notion of assigning them for the use of lepers. To consider them as openings for confession is an almost equally impossible theory. The opinion of the most competent is gradually maturing to the general adoption of the view that they were used for the ringing of the sanctus bell at the solemn periods of the Mass by the server, before sanctus bell-cotes on the nave gable came into use. The most noteworthy instance in the county is at Melton Constable, where there is a seat scooped out in the hollow of the wall close to the low-side window, with a stone book-desk opposite to it. No confessor could possibly want a book, but it would be almost a requisite for an altar-clerk. At Sheringham there is a seat in a somewhat similar position. The following other examples of these once shuttered openings are worth studying:—Aldborough, Arminghall, Ashill, Barford, Beeston Regis, West Bradenham, Briningham, Burlingham St. Andrew, Burnham Ulph, Burnham Westgate, Buxton, Carlton Rode, Caister St. Edmund, Colkirk, Coston, Crownthorpe, Fincham, Harpley,

Hellesden, Hempstead (2), Hockham (2), Holt, Horsford, Horsham, West Lexham, South Repps, Ridlington, Rollesby, Ryston (2), Runham, Terrington St. John (2), Threxton, Walsham St. Mary, and Watton.¹ (See also Index.)

As to the materials used in church construction the almost entire absence of stone caused the builders to turn their attention in pre-Norm. days to the use of flints. From that day to this flints have been utilised for this purpose with frequency and developing ingenuity. In the 13th cent., and throughout the two succeeding cents., flints were usually dressed or split to produce an even outer surface for the walling. Flint, with stone quoinings and framings—the stone, as has been already said, coming chiefly over-sea from Caen—forms the bulk of the walls of nine-tenths of the Norfolk churches. Large local rubble stone was occasionally used, as at Shouldham Thorpe; the valuable and enduring Barnack stone, from the famous quarries near Peterborough, was now and again brought into

¹ The measurements of all these have been carefully taken, but have to be omitted for lack of space. No one knew and loved the Norfolk churches better than that most capable antiquary, the late Canon Manning. I had the advantage of visiting several of these churches in his company and of receiving many communications from him on Norfolk low-side windows. He was latterly a strong upholder of the sanctus-bell theory, and expressed this opinion in the last address he delivered to the local Archæological Society in 1898.

Norfolk at great cost, in later mediæval days ; it is found, for instance, in the great churches of Terrington St. Clement and Swaffham. Freestone is the chief material in a very few cases, as in the churches of Hilgay and Methwold. Hunstanton supplied an inferior kind of ragstone, used in several churches in the immediate neighbourhood ; it was now and again conveyed a considerable distance, for it appears at Guestwick and Melton Constable.

Though destitute of the really noble examples of 15th cent. BRICKWORK to be found in Essex churches, the Norfolk use of bricks is much larger than is usually stated to be the case. Shelton is the only instance where brickwork is used throughout, and with excellent effect, in an old church of any importance ; this church is known to have been thus built between 1495 and 1500. At Potter Heigham there is an admirably designed 15th cent. porch in moulded brickwork, and the brick porch of Repps is *c.* 1500. There is also a fair amount of pre-Reformation well-executed embattled brick parapets to the towers of various churches, and bricks are also used in turning the window arches of some of the later clerestory windows.

Apart from surface work, the church use of bricks in this county was most considerable throughout the 15th cent. The unhappy

number of ruined or partly ruined churches show clearly that bricks were not only freely used in the minor parts of tower archways and windows, but that new bricks also formed a very considerable part of the inner rubble or walling. Fully a fourth of the whole inner walling of the fine lofty tower of South Walsham St. Laurence, one half of which is standing from the base to the summit, is formed of brick. Repairs in brickwork occasionally produce quite picturesque effects, as in the case of the steeple of Downham Market. In later days brickwork was now and again utilised in rebuildings after a tasteless fashion, as in the body of the church of Dilham or the tower of Hoveton St. John.

The use of timber in church construction, save in roofs, doors, lead-covered spires, and internal fittings, is almost unknown in Norfolk.

There can be no doubt that the earliest churches of East Anglia were covered with THATCH. The various good qualities of such a roofing material are shown by its long continuance in the village churches. Almost everywhere else in England a thatched church would be regarded as an eccentricity, but in Norfolk and Suffolk, more especially the former, its occurrence is nothing unusual. This, to a great extent, arises from the resources of the Broads, for the thatch is generally formed from carefully

cut water-reeds (*Phragmites communis*), which thrive on marshy ground, instead of from wheat-straw. In two cases, Irstead and Stokesby, the well-arranged thatch shows through the rafters in the interior of the church after a primitive, but not unseemly, fashion. The thatch, particularly in churches of lower pitch, such as Salhouse, has, for the most part, a pleasing effect. It requires, however, fairly regular attention and renewal. Moss-grown thatch may be picturesque, but it rapidly deteriorates when in that condition—the church of Palling affords a sad example of the miserable plight of a long-neglected roof of this kind. A very considerable number of churches lost their thatch throughout the 19th cent., particularly during the restorations of the last thirty or forty-one years. In the first half of the 19th cent. fully 270 Norfolk churches had thatched roofs, as can be proved from the Dawson Turner drawings and the Ladbroke lithographs. The list, however, of those that yet remain thus covered, in whole or in part, is by no means insignificant ; they amount to upwards of fifty, and include the following :—Acle, Bacton, Banningham, Beechamwell, Beighton, Billockby, Brunstead, Buckenham Old, Burgh-next-Aylsham, Burgh St. Margaret, Burlingham St. Edmund, Chedgrave, Claxton, Coltishall, Crost-wight, Drayton, Eaton, Edingthorpe, Filby, Hales, Hassingham, Heckingham, Hempstead,

Horsey, Horsford, Hoveton St. Peter, Ingworth, Irstead, Lessingham, Mautby, Mundford, Ormesby St. Michael, Palling, Potter Heigham, Ranworth, Ridlington, Rockland St. Peter, Rushford, Salhouse, Scoulton, Seething, Sisland, Somerton West, Stockton, Stokesby, Swafield, Taverham, Thompson, Thorpe-by-Haddiscoe, Thurgarton, Thurlton, Thurne, Thurton, Tivets-hall St. Margaret, Thwaite St. Mary, Waxham, Wheatacre St. Peter, and Woodbastwick.

The Norfolk church builders made a grand use of their available timber. Nowhere else in the kingdom were such beautiful 15th cent. roofs, often rich in painting, produced. The double hammer-beam late roof of Knapton, with its triple rows of angels, is simply glorious. Other interesting roofs in the north of the county of double or single hammer-beam or of collar-braced construction, are those of Potter Heigham, Lingwood, Ormesby St. Michael, Thorne, Sco Ruston, Scottow, Cawston, Sall, and Worstead. The earlier trussed rafter roof of Filby is a good example. In the southern division the most notable roofs are those of Swaffham, Necton, Attleborough, Wymondham, and St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

The old doors of Norfolk churches are not infrequently peculiarly fine or interesting pieces of workmanship, although not a few have disappeared under needless restoration since the

days when the Dawson Turner drawings were compiled. In several cases there is a beautiful border of quatrefoils running round the margin. The following is a brief list of some of the more important ; the letter (I) means that the iron work is important :—

Barton, Turf, W. ; Buxton, N., 14th cent. ; Edingthorpe, S. (I) ; Filby tower (I) ; Harpley, S. ; Hempstead, priests' door ; Hellesdon, N. and S., 14th cent. (I) ; Hungate tower (I) ; Irstead, S. (I) ; Kirby Bedon, S., Norm. (I) ; Martham, S. ; Norwich, St. Martin Palace, N., Norm. ; St. Michael Thorne, S. Norm. ; St. Peter Hungate, N. and S. ; Palling, S. ; East Ruston tower ; Sco Ruston, S. (inscription) ; Runhall, E.E. ; Reepham tower (I) ; Skeyton, S. ; Sall, S. ; Sparham, S. ; Stokesby, S. (I) ; Thurlton, N.* ; Tunstead, S. (I) ; and Wroxham, S.

As to PULPITS, a fair number of pre-Reformation date remain in the churches. They occur at Beeston (linen-fold), Bessingham, Burlingham St. Edmund (painted), Brisley, Burnham Norton (painted), Castleacre, Catton (base 15th cent.), South Creke, Dersingham, North Elmham, Filby, Horsham (painted), Irstead (linen-fold), Litcham, Neatishead (linen-fold), Necton, Norwich St. Mary Coslany, Scarning, Snettisham, West Somerton, Great Sparham, Thurning, North Walsham, and Walsingham. There are various Jacobean pulpits ; the one at Cley is dated 1611. The sounding

board of the old pulpit at Fincham is dated 1604; Tuttington, 1635; and Necton, 1636. The old 17th cent. hour-glass stands remain at Billingham, Breccles, Burlingham St. Edmund, Lessingham, Marlingford (with the glass), Merton, Salhouse, Shouldham, Stalham, Sutton, Walpole St. Andrew, and Wiggenhall St. Mary.

Old LECTERNS are well represented. There are brass eagles at East Dereham, St. Margaret and St. Nicholas Lynn, St. Gregory Norwich, Oxborough, and Wiggenhall. At Shipdham there is a beautiful double wooden lectern desk, *temp.* Henry VII.; its fellow at East Harling was stolen during a recent restoration. There is another of these double lecterns as St. Michael-at-Thorn, Norwich. Ranworth has an interesting music lectern which used to stand on the rood-loft, and there is a small wooden eagle within the altar-rails of Redenhall.

There is much valuable and interesting pre-Reformation seating left in the Norfolk churches, chiefly of 15th and early 16th cent. date, but with here and there carving of an indubitable 14th cent. type. QUIRE STALLS are to be noted at Aylsham (1507), Binham, Blakeney, Castleacre (3 misericords), Caston (2 mis.), Cawston (1460), Cley (6 mis.), East Harling (6 mis.), Horning, Ingham, Litcham, Lynn St. Margaret (16 mis.), Lynn St. Nicholas (10 mis. now in Arch. Mus. London), Norwich St. Andrew, St. Michael Coslany,

St. Gregory, St. Peter Mancroft, St. Swithun, Sall, Sprowston, Thompson (4 with mis.), Tilney All Saints (18 mis.), Trunch, Walpole St. Peter (5 mis.), North Walsham, Old Walsingham, Walsoken (9 mis.), and Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalene.

This county surpasses all others, not excepting Suffolk, in the number and occasional beauty of the PRE-REFORMATION BENCHES and bench ends (usually poppy heads) which survive. In several cases the backs of the benches are finely carved. They are found in the greatest number in the N.E. of the county throughout the Broads district, when easy water carriage facilitated bringing of timber from distant parts. The nave and aisle of the little church of Irstead have the old seating throughout, and the same may nearly be said of the churches of South Walsham St. Mary and Horsey. The simplest form of the old benching consists of substantial slabs of oak with poppy head bench ends, but destitute of any backs. A few of these backless benches still remain in several churches, but they are generally treated as lumber and stowed away under the tower or in a porch chamber. Within the recollection of the writer, whole rows of these have been swept away out of five churches. The best instance is at Cawston, where they are still erect and in use throughout the N. aisle. A list had been prepared of upwards of 100

churches wherein old seating remains, accompanied by brief notes as to style and number; but exigencies of space compel its omission. The best examples, in addition to those already mentioned, occur at Ashmanhaugh, Field Dalling, Horning, Ludham, Matlask, Runton, Stokesby, Tottington, Walpole St. Peter, Wiggshall St. Germain, Wimbotsham, and East Winch.

The following are the more remarkable of the old ALMSBOXES:—Attleborough, Cawston (pre-Reformation), Fakenham (1665), Gooderstone, Litcham, Loddon (pre-Reformation), Mileham (1639), West Rudham, Watton (1639), Wickmere and Walpole St. Peter (1639.)

Noteworthy CHURCH CHESTS are to be found at Beeston (linen-fold panels), Blickling (15th-cent. inscription), Denton (panels of rood-screen), East Dereham (beautiful Flemish work), Dersingham (14th cent., lid inscription), Fincham (iron-bound), Frettenham (arcaded), Gimingham (iron-bound), Hempstead (linen-fold), Horning (13th cent. dug-out), Litcham (14th cent.), South Lopham (early large dug-out), Ludham (14th cent.), Martham (14th cent.), Redenhall (inlaid), Sall (iron-bound), Shropham (early 13th), Great Snoring (1632), South Acre (14th cent.), Terrington St. Clement (early 16th cent.), North Walsham (iron-bound 15th cent.), and Winfarthing (16th cent.). (See also Index.)

Nothing need here be said to enhance the value both in carving and painting of the Norfolk SCREENS. Notwithstanding the appalling havoc wrought with these screens during the past cent. through the apathy, ignorance, and occasional purblind bigotry of their custodians, the number that have survived and are in fairly good condition is astonishing. A good monograph on the Norfolk screens is sorely needed. Separate books have been brought out by the Norfolk Archæological Society on the screens of Ranworth, Barton Turf, and Fritton ; and the admirable treatise by the late Mr. G. E. Fox on "Mediæval Painting in Norfolk Churches" in vol. ii. of the *Victoria History* of this county should be consulted. The question of the incidence of the saints so beautifully painted on the panels of many of these screens is far too long and intricate for discussion in this place. There is much about it in Mr. Fox's article, as well as in another article in *Memorials of Old Norfolk* ; Dr. Jessopp's edition of Husenbeth's *Emblems of the Saints* should also be consulted. The Apostles largely predominate, and the Latin Doctors occur several times. The saintly but uncanonised Henry VI. appears on four of the screens. The local saints are peculiarly interesting, especially St. Walstan, of whose picturesque life an outline is given under Bawburgh. The screens are chiefly of the latter

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part of the 15th cent. and the beginning of the 16th, but there are a few of the 14th cent. In the following list the actual dates are given in cases where they are



St. Walstan, Ludham
Screen

known; an asterisk means that old painting remains; "(p)" implies that the screen is a parclose or chapel enclosure, otherwise they are chancel or rood-screens. This list makes no claim to be exhaustive or entirely accurate. Absolute accuracy is impossible, as occasionally even nowadays a screen or part of a screen is ejected, and still more occasionally a screen is replaced after a period of banishment in a rectory barn or a builder's yard, whilst now and again painted panels are recovered from illegal private possession. Moreover human

memory is infirm, notebooks compiled some years ago are misread, or kindly correspondents fail to distinguish between ancient and modern. At all events it is, we believe, the best and fullest list of the old screen-work of Norfolk as yet put together:—

Acle, Alburgh (fragments), Aldby, Ashmanhaugh, Attleborough,* Aylmerton, Aylsham* (1507), Babingley, Baconthorpe (organ screen, formerly rood-screen of Bessingham), Banham (p.), Barnham Broom,* Barsham North (parts), Barton Bendish, Barton Turf,* Bawburgh (restd.), Bedingham, Beeston-next-Sea* (parts in reredos), Beetley (parts), Belaugh,* Billingsford,* Binham* (parts), Bixley (restd.), Blake-ney, Blofield,* Bradeston, Breckles, Bridgham, Brisley, Brockdish, Buckenham New, Burlingham St. Andrew* (1528), Burlington St. Peter (parts), Burnham Norton* (1458), Buxton,* Carbrooke,* Carleton Rode,* Castleacre, Catfield,* Cawston,* Colkirk, Colton, Corpusty (restd.), Costessey, Coltishall, Creak North (parts), Creak South, Cressingham Great, Crostwight, Denton* (panels made into a chest), Deopham, Dersingham,* Dickleborough, Earham, Edgefield (and p. 1520), Edingthorpe* (14th cent.), Elmham North* (p.), Elsing* (base), Emneth (parts, and p.), Fakenham, Feltham, Feltwell, Filby,* Fincham, Field Dalling (parts), Foulden, Foxley, Fritton,* Gateley, Gillingham* (2 panels), Gooderstone,* Gressenhall,* Grimston, Griston, Hackford, Happisburgh, Hardwick,* Harling East (p.), Harpley,* Heacham (parts), Hempstead, Hemsby, Hethersett, Heydon, Hickling, Hockwold, Holme Hale, Hoe (parts), Horsey, Horsham St. Faith* (1528),

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Houghton-le-Dale,* Hunstanton,* Ickburgh,
 Ingham (panels in private hands), Ingoldisthorpe
 (restd.), Ingworth (base), Irstead,* Kenninghall,
 Knapton, Lessingham, Litcham,* Loddon,*
 Longham, Lopham South, Ludham * (1493),
 Lynn St. Nicholas (parts), Lynn South * (parts),
 Mannington,* Martham, Massingham Great,*
 Mattishall,* Mautby, Melton Parva, Merton,*
 Middleton,* Morton * (base), Moulton, Mul-
 barton, Mundford, Neatishead,* Norwich, St.
 Gregory * (3 panels), St. James * (panels in
 private hands), St. Michael-at-Plea * (panels
 formed into a reredos), St. Paul (p.), St. Peter
 Parmentergate (parts), Sts. Simon and Jude
 (parts), Outwell, Oxborough,* Palling (base),
 Paston, Plumstead Great,* Plumstead Little
 (restd.), Poringland * (1473), Potter Heigham,*
 Pulham St. Mary Magdalen, Pulham St. Mary *
 (restd.), Rackheath, Rainham South, Ranworth *
 Redenhall * (panels in vestry), Repps,* Repps
 North (under tower), Repps South,* Ringland,*
 Rushall * (panels in vestry), Ruston East,*
 Saham Toney, Salhouse,* Sall,* Santon Down-
 ham (14th cent.), Saxthorpe, Scarning,*
 Shelfanger, Sheringham (with rood-loft), Shing-
 ham, Smallburgh,* Snetterton, Snoring Great,
 Somerton West, Sparham (parts), Spixworth,
 Stalham * (panels at rectory), Stanfield, Strump-
 shaw,* Suffield,* Sustead, Swafield,* Swanton
 Abbot,* Swanton Morley, Swardeston,

Tacolneston * (parts), Taverham,* Thetford, Thornham,* Thompson (14th cent.), Thorpe Abbots (parts), Threxton, Thurlton (14th cent.), Thwaite, Tibenham, Tilney All Saints (1618), Tivetshall St. Margaret (Elizabethan), Toft Monks, West Tofts, Tottington, Trimingham,* Trunch * (1502), Tuddenham North,* Tunstead,* Upton,* Upwell, Walcott, Walpole St. Peter, Walsham North,* Walsham South, Walsingham New (p.), Walsoken, Watlington (p.), Weeting,* Wellingham * (1532), Welborne (parts), Wending, Weston Longville,* Westwick,* Wheat-acre, Wilton, Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen,* Wiggenhall St. Mary,* Wighton, Wiveton (under tower), Wolferton, Worstead (1512), Wretton,* Yarmouth, Yelverton.*

Norfolk is pre-eminently the county of remarkable and beautiful FONTS of each of the recognised architectural periods. It is singularly rich in Norm. varieties, particularly in the N.W. district. The most notable, all with square bowls, are those of Burnham Deepdale and Fincham, with human figures, and Toftrees, Shernborne, and Sculthorpe, with a profusion of interlaced ornaments. Breckles, in the south of the county, is of the same class; Hunstanton, of the like order, is a good deal later, possibly early 13th cent. (See article by Dr. Dukinfield Astley on Norman fonts in *Memorials of Old*

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Norfolk; also vol. ix. of *Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist*.) There are many of plain Norm. character.

Of the E.E. period there is a considerable group almost peculiar to Norfolk, with an octagonal bowl of Purbeck marble and simple arcaded panels, and supported by a central and eight smaller shafts. These have been noticed at Antingham, Coltishall, Crostwight, Easton, Filby, Horning, Horstead, Ingham, Intwood, Knapton, Lessingham, Lingwood, Norton Subcourse, Ormesby St. Michael, Scottow, Sporle, Stody, and Walcott. Such fonts are an indication of the growing prosperity of the district, for these would in all cases be the successors of simple Norman ones, and could not fail to cost the parishes considerable sums.

Fonts are one of the strong evidences of the inappropriateness of the usual term Dec. to architectural work of the 14th cent., for those of that period are usually severely plain. There are fully a score of simple octagonal fonts in Norfolk of that date. Ditchingham, Postwick, and Shelfanger are among the few more ornate Dec. examples.

The Perp. or third-pointed period of the 15th cent. is prolific in excellent fonts of great variety throughout East Anglia, and more especially in Norfolk. They are almost invariably of octagonal form, but with a few

hexagonal exceptions. The panels of the bowl are usually much enriched. A favourite device is the carving of the Evangelistic symbols alternating with angel-borne shields of the instruments of the Passion, or other sacred devices. Most of these are early in the period ; thus the actual date of 1410 is given at Acle, and in at least half-a-dozen instances an approximately similar date can be proved. The Evangelistic symbols have been noted at Acle, Aylsham, Bacton, Caistor St. Edmund, Colney, Fritton, Great Dunham, Haddiscoe, Hemsby, Lakenham, Salhouse, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham St. Mary, Swanton Novers, Taverham, Thorpe Abbots, and Toft Monks ; also at the three Norwich churches of St. John of the Sepulchre, St. Peter Parmentergate, and St. Swithun. Lions sejant are a favourite device of East Anglian font sculptors, occasionally on the panels of the bowl, but more often grouped, four in number, round the shaft or pedestal. They usually occur on those of the earlier Perp. type, and have been noticed at the three Norwich churches just named, and at Acle, Blickling, Buxton, Caistor St. Edmund, Calthorpe, Fritton, Haddiscoe, Heigham, Hempnall, Hempstead, Irstead, Needham, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham St. Mary, Strumpshaw, Thurlton, Toft Monks, Westwick, and Wheat-acre All Saints. At Happisburgh and Ludham

the base is supported by alternate lions and "woodhouses" or wild men, an arrangement more usual in Suffolk than Norfolk. Attempts at explanation of mediæval symbolism are, after all, mere guesses; but possibly these font sculptors, or those who instructed them, had in their minds Christ as the Lion of Judah, and the wild men may typify the evil nature expelled by the waters of Holy Baptism.

As the 15th cent. went on, the religious folk of East Anglia, by increasing the height and dignity of the font, and by making the teaching of the sculpture more definite, through actual figures, did their best to enforce the importance of the initial Sacrament of the Church. In some instances the font carvers were content to reproduce window tracery on the panels, as at Palling and a dozen other instances. The effective font of Yaxham (of which Cromer is a modern copy) has reproductions of crocketed canopies on each face. Heraldry also finds a place here and there, as at Fakenham and Kelling; but definite human figures predominate in the best specimens. At Docking, round the bowl, are the four Latin Doctors alternating with the four Evangelists, whilst about the pedestal are eight female saints; at Stalham, as at All Saints and St. James, Norwich, there are eight saints round the shaft, and two on each of the eight faces of the bowl. The Christian

teaching and elaborate beautifying of East Anglian fonts culminated in the representation of the Seven Sacraments by groups of figures on the panel, another subject, usually the crucifixion, being chosen for the eighth panel. Thirty-one of these Sacrament fonts are extant ; all save two are in East Anglia, and of these Norfolk claims eighteen ; they occur at Binham, Brooke, Burgh-near-Aylsham, Cley, East Dereham, Gayton Thorpe, Gresham, Loddon, Marsham, Martham, Norwich Cathedral (from the demolished church of St. Mary-in-the-Marsh), Sall, Seething, Sloley, Little Walsingham, Walsoken, Great Witchingham, and West Lynn. The earliest of these is probably East Dereham, which is known to have been carved in 1468, whilst the latest is Walsoken, which was given to that church in 1544.

Greater dignity was given latterly to the font by mounting it on several steps, of which Dereham, Walsingham, and Worstead may be mentioned as examples. The faces of these steps or "risers," according to their technical term, are not infrequently enriched with ornament, usually some form of quatrefoil, as in the three cases just mentioned, and at Yaxham and Stalham. The later figure fonts were usually coloured and gilded ; traces of this remain on six of the Norfolk Sacrament fonts and on at least seven other instances.

Norfolk possesses one lead font, namely at Brundall, about the 13th cent.; there was another one of lead at Great Plumstead, but most of this was melted in the fire of 1891. The old brick font at Potter Heigham is also notable.

As to FONT COVERS, the county affords several valuable examples. There are two cases of wooden structural canopies standing free of the font at Trunch and at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, but the latter has much modern work. Fine examples of lofty tabernacle work occur at Buxton, Brancaster, Castleacre, Costessey, Dersingham, Merton, Sall, Southacre, North Walsham, and Worstead. Good specimens of post-Reformation covers are to be seen at Knapton, Long Stratton, St. George Tombland, Norwich, Terrington St. Clement, Walpole St. Peter, and New Walsingham (1610). At St. Stephen's, Norwich, is a gilded iron open cover, formed of eagle's necks held together by a ring.

Norfolk possesses a fairly fine number of chancel SEDILIA, although in a large number of cases, owing to the costliness of stone, the church builders were content to lower the sill of the south window nearest to the altar to serve for this purpose. These sills are usually left flat or even, but in a few cases they are graded into three heights. The graded and ungraded examples, which have carved stone canopies, are about equally divided. Among the better sedilia

may be mentioned those of Caister-by-Sea, Beeston-by-the-Sea, Bexwell, West Bradenham, Brisley, Fakenham, Hockering, Hockwold, Mautby, Ormesby St. Margaret, Stokesby, Strumpshaw, Watlington, Watton, Waxham, and Wrampingham. Double sedilia are as a rule quite exceptional, but several may be noted in Norfolk, as at Carbrooke, Hardingham, Melton Parva, Runton, Shereford, Long Stratton, and Witton-by-North Walsham. (See also Index.)

Norfolk and Suffolk share between them the greater part of those rare, tall, narrow lockers, which are usually supposed to have been for processional crosses, but are far more rightly named BANNER STAVE LOCKERS. These lockers, or wall recesses, vary in height from 7 feet to 12 feet, from 12 inches to 18 inches in width, and about 12 inches in depth. They occur in this county at Castle Rising, Catfield, Cromer, Palling, Pulham St. Mary Magdalene, Strumpshaw, South Walsham St. Mary, and Waxham.

CONSECRATION CROSSES, marking the places where the bishop in mediæval days anointed both outer and inner walls during the solemn ceremony of dedication, are of much value to ecclesiologists and devout observers. A few of them survive in Norfolk churches, but these marks were at one time much more frequent in the county. Several have of recent years been ignorantly obscured, or deliberately removed through un-

pardonable bigotry. In four cases of which we took personal notes they have disappeared. See subsequent brief notes as to these crosses under Barningham Winter, Bircham Tofts, Blofield, Bodney, Carleton Rode, Horning, Ovington, Oxborough, North Repps, Shotesham All Saints, Thrigby, and Worstead ; also the three Norwich churches of St. John Sepulchre, St. Saviour, and St. Peter Parmentergate.

Old ALTAR SLABS, bearing all or some of the five consecration crosses, may be seen at the churches of Barsham, Bradenham West, Cley, Geldeston, Great Hautbois, Hanworth (in use), Horning, Larling, (in use), Lexham West, Morley, Oxborough (in use), Pickenham South, Poringland, Sall, Scottow, Terrington St. Clement, Weston, Weston Longville, and Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalene.

AS TO ALTAR PLATE, there is one pre-Reformation chalice extant, namely at the Norwich church of St. Peter Mancroft. The pre-Reformation patens are far more numerous, amounting to thirty-five ; they are to be found at the churches of Bacton, Barningham, Beechamwell, Beeston next Mileham, Beeston Regis, Beighton, Brancaster, Caston, Coleby, Costessey, Cromer, Felbrigg (c. 1350), Foxley, Gissing, Happisburgh, Hanworth, Hockering, Hockham, Holkham, Merton, Mundham, Narford, Oulton, Paston, Runton, Sall, Saham

Toney, Shernborne, Suffield, Thurgarton, Tittleshall, Tuddenham North, Tuttington, Wood Dalling, and Wymondham. There are a large number of Elizabethan cups, for the most part with paten covers; their prevailing date is 1566-7.

With regard to monuments, Norfolk, as might be expected in so stoneless a district, is well supplied with BRASSES. It is, however a saddening reflection to remember, as proved by the pages of Blomefield's history and by the drawings of Kerrich and Dawson Turner, that about as many again as are now extant were stolen from the churches between about 1750 and 1850. At St. Margaret's Lynn are the two finest brasses (1349, 1364), in the kingdom, both of Flemish workmanship. Other fine and interesting brasses are at Elsing (1347), Erpingham (1415), Felbrigg (c. 1350, 1380, and 1416), Hunstanton (1506) Methwold (1367), Norwich (several in mayoral costume), Reepham (1391), Rougham (1470), and Southacre (1384). The county also provides the largest number of chalice brasses marking the entombment of priests, as well as various examples of heart brasses, and of the hideous shroud brasses. Lists of these are given in Macklin's *Brasses of England* (1907), an invaluable work. Our best expert on monumental brasses, Mr. Mill Stephenson, has recently set forth a list of twenty-five

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Norfolk examples of palimpsest brasses. (See *Norfolk Archæological Collections*, vol. xv. 61-90.) The Rev. E. Farrer published a list (not quite complete) of the brasses in 1890, and in the same year Mr. E. M. Beloe, junior, issued a series of twenty-five photolitho plates.

The STONE EFFIGIES of the county are not numerous, but they include some interesting examples. The most noteworthy are two of the middle of the 14th cent. at Ingham and Reepham, obviously by the same sculptor. Others occur at Ashwellthorpe, Houghton, Hethersett, Mautby, North Creak, Southacre, Stratton Strawless, Wickhampton, and Wood Rising.

There are also three knightly effigies in wood, which are to be found at the churches of Banham, Fersfield, and Southacre.

Notwithstanding the considerable number of old parish churches yet standing in the county (upwards of 650), there are a surprisingly large number which have entirely disappeared since the upheaval of the Reformation days, or are in a more or less ruined condition, being altogether unused or only used in part for occasional services. It has hitherto been suggested that such desecrated or abandoned churches numbered seventy ; but it will be found, from the following list, that they amount to the grave total of 128:—

Appleton, Alington, Antingham (St. Margaret), Ashby near Yarmouth, Attleborough,

Babingley, Barwick, Barningham Winter, Barton (All Saints), Bastwick, Bawsey, Bayfield, East and West Beckham, Beeston (St. Andrew), Beechamwell (All Saints and St. John), Bickerston, Billockby, Blonorton (St. Margaret), Bowthorpe, Buckenham Tofts, Burgh Parva, Burgh St. Mary, Burgh (St. Thomas) near Yarmouth, Burnham Sutton, Caldecote, Carbrooke Parva, West Caister, East Carleton, Choseley, Cley-next-the-Sea, Cockley Cley (St. Peter), Colveston, Congham (two), Little Cressingham, Croxton, Great Dunham (St. Mary), West Dereham (St. Peter), Doughton, Eccles-by-the-Sea, Edgefield, Egmere, Fincham (St. Michael), Flitcham, Foulden, Fulmodeston, Garboldisham (All Saints), Gasthorpe, Gillingham, Godwick, Hackford-next-Reepham, Hainford, Hargham, Hautbois, Holverston, Hempton, Herringby, Little Hockham, Irmingland, Kempston, Keswick, Kirby Bedon (St. Mary), Longham Parva, Letton, Leziate, Lynford, Lynn (North), Mannington, Marham (St. Andrew), Markshall, Mintlyn, Moulton (All Saints), Mundesley, Mundham (St. Ethelbert), Oby near Yarmouth, Ormesby (St. Andrew), Ormesby (St. Peter), Overstrand, Oxborough, Little Palgrave, Pottesley, Pensthorpe, Poringland Parva, Pudding Norton, Quarles, Rackheath Parva, West Rainham, Ringstead (St. Peter), Rockland (St. Andrew and St. Margaret), Roudham,

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Roxham, Little Ryburgh, Saxlingham Thorpe, Scratby, Shingham, Shotesham (St. Martin and St. Botolph), Sidestrand, Snetterton (St. Andrew), East Somerton, Southery, Southwood, Stan-ninghall, Stiffkey, Stratton (St. Peter), Sturston, Surlingham (St. Saviour), Swainsthorpe (St. Mary), Tattersett (St. Andrew), Testerton, Thorpe Parva, Thorpeland, Tottenhill, Tunstall, Wallington, South Walsham (St. Lawrence), Waxham, Weeting, Welney, Whitlingham, Wicklewood (St. Andrew), Wolterton, Wood Norton (St. Peter), and West Wretham.

It is not contended that Norfolk in mediæval days was not in a few cases, according to modern estimates, over churchied. Particularly was this the case in the half-dozen instances where there were two churches in the one churchyard, or even three, as at Reepham. But the disuse of so large a number, and the abandonment of several, with fair-sized parishes attached, during the 18th and early 19th cents., are evidences of the apathy and meanness of that period. The time, however, when the large majority of these churches were deliberately desecrated, or stripped of their valuables and turned into ruins, occurred in the earlier days immediately following the Reformation. So much is this the case that the "Dark Days" of Norfolk, so far as the Christian Faith is concerned, were not to be found during the mediæval

period, but in the overvaunted days of Elizabeth. It has been suggested by one able Norfolk writer that this almost wholesale church desecration was chiefly brought about through the deliberate carelessness of those who clung to the unreformed faith, and who had no reverence for churches under their changed aspect. This statement has been several times copied, but is quite wide of the mark, for even if true, it could only apply at the most to half-a-dozen cases. The real fact is that, in Norfolk as elsewhere, the spirit of the times was such that many of the nobility and wealthy landowners gave themselves up to building vast mansions for their own enjoyment, and grossly neglected the Houses for the worship of God. Sir Nicholas Bacon, for instance, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal to Queen Elizabeth, deliberately turned the parish church of St. Edmund's, Egmore, into a barn and a stable for his horses. Judge Gawdy, too, *c.* 1589, converted the church of St. Margaret, Wallington, into a barn. In the light of all this, and of the grievous revelations made manifest in the Elizabethan Archidiaconal Records, it becomes more and more manifest that the last half of the 16th cent. was a most godless period of English history.

THE DEANERY OF BRISLEY

Beeston (or Beeston-next-Mileham).—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel with chapel, clerestoried nave with aisles, porch, and a tower with spire. The tower and spire were almost destroyed by lightning in 1872, but rebuilt in the following year. Both chancel and nave with aisles are in the main Dec. work of the second half of the 14th cent. The clerestory is Perp. There is a good 15th cent. rood-screen in fair preservation, but the painting is much defaced. Of the twelve figures on the lower panels there are representations of St. Michael, St. George, a figure holding an anchor, a ploughshare and tun with the letter B, and an eagle (see Carthew's *Hundred of Launditch*, ii. 381). The end of each aisle has a good parclose screen in front of a raised chapel. The screen-work of the Lady Chapel on the N. side is the more elaborate; the S. chapel is that of St. John Baptist. The nave roof has some fine and curious bosses. Several of the old seats have carved backs and poppy-head ends. On the N. wall of the

chancel, painted on a board in black letter, with rubricated initials, is the following inscription:—

Johñes Forbye artiũ magister atq' huius Ecclie Rector hasce Tabulas, hec sacraria istaq' subsellia refecit, et sacris posuit nō proptfanis aut scholarib' usibus. Mors mihi vita.

The old chancel stalls, given by John Forbie in 1598, have, alas, been removed to make way for successors of sticky pine. (Registers, 1538.)

Beetley.—The small church of St. Mary Magdalene consists of chancel, nave, S. porch and massive W. tower, chiefly of 14th cent. date. A N. aisle has been removed and the outside bricked up. The church has undergone "thorough restorations" during recent years. The easternmost S. window-sill of the chancel has been lowered for sedilia. Beyond them is an unusually good piscina niche, having a cinquefoil-headed ogee arch, with stilted jamb shafts. On the N. side of the chancel are traces of a former vestry or sacristy. The octagonal 15th cent. font has sculptured shields on the panels. The lofty late chancel screen is described by Carthew as being "in the Italian or Renaissance style." (Registers, 1539.)

Bilney, East.—The small church of St. Mary now consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower, with small chapel on the S. of nave

converted into an organ chamber. The chancel, long a ruin, was rebuilt on the old foundation in 1883. The upper stage of the tower, destroyed during Kett's rebellion of 1549, was restored in 1906. There is a room over the porch. The fabric is a blend of 13th and 14th cent. work. The octagonal font is E.E. (Registers, 1713, the older ones having been destroyed by fire.)

Bittering, Little.—The small church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. double bell turret. It is throughout of E.E. style, *c.* 1250. The whole building is 51 feet by 18 feet. The chancel is separated from the nave by a well-carved rood-screen. The circular font is late Norm. A stone bench extends the whole width of the W. end. There are two coped coffin covers against the N. wall, both 13th cent. (Registers, 1733.)

Brisley.—The church of St. Bartholomew consists of a chancel, clerestoried nave of five bays, aisles, N. porch, and lofty W. tower. The style throughout is early Perp., *c.* 1400. On the S. side of the chancel is an unusually small priests' doorway, nearly concealed by a large buttress; on the opposite side is an arched doorway opening on a stairway leading to a small crypt beneath the altar, which obviously served as a charnel or bone-hole. Against the S. wall of the chancel is a very

finely sculptured set of sedilia with corresponding piscina niche, having cinquefoiled ogee heads. There is a well-preserved rood-screen, damaged, however, by a poor attempt at local painting. The hexagonal wooden pulpit is pre-Reformation ; some of the seats have good poppy-head bench ends with elbows. The plain octagonal font is coeval with the building. On the S. side of the nave is a defaced wall painting of St. Christopher, discovered in 1843 ; also figures of Sts. Bartholomew and Andrew, uncovered in 1848. The brass, mentioned by Blomefield and figured by Carthew, with the effigy of John Athowe, rector of Horningtoft, 1531, in mass vestments, formerly at the E. end of the N. aisle, is, we believe, now in the chancel. The fine tower is of four stages, divided by moulded string-courses. The diagonal buttresses are of freestone with flush-work panellings of dressed flints. (Registers, 1698).

Colkirk.—The small church of St. Mary consists of chancel and nave, of good Perp. work, with an E.E. tower on the S. side of the nave, the basement of which serves as a porch. To this was added a N. aisle in 1872. At the W. corner of the S. side of the chancel is a built-up low-side window, 4 feet from the ground. The rood-screen with painted arms, described by Carthew as “good Perp.,” was cruelly swept away during an evil

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restoration of 1858. The plain font is Norm. (Registers, 1538.)

Dunham, Great.—This parish used to possess two churches, St. Andrew and St. Mary, the latter in the earliest days being a chapel of the former. But in the time of Henry II. each had its own parish assigned to it, and the priory of Castleacre appointed to both benefices. Institutions are recorded in the Norwich episcopal registers to St. Mary's up to the close of the 17th cent. Soon after that St. Mary's was consolidated with St. Andrew's, and the former church fell into ruin. St. Mary's stood but a little distance to the W. of the larger and more ancient church; some of its foundations have been more than once discovered in the rectory gardens. The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and central tower. The fabric is of the highest interest, as it includes much of the oldest ecclesiastical work in the county, at least as early as the days of the Confessor. The material is rough flint interspersed with a few Roman bricks or tiles. The chancel, rebuilt in the 15th cent., is poor Perp. The foundations of the semicircular apse of the Saxon chancel were found a few years ago almost beneath the present altar. The pre-Norm. evidences in nave and tower are abundant. The quoin stones at the angles are arranged after the "long and short" method;

the tower walls have only a thickness of 3 feet 9 inches, and those of the nave 2 feet. At the W. end of the nave is a characteristic triangular-headed doorway; this has been long blocked up and a square doorway inserted, over which is impressed in plaster the royal arms within a garter of the reign of Henry VI. In the upper part of the N. wall is a small double-splayed round-headed light, and traces of two similar ones, blocked up, on the S. side. The arches of all these lights are turned in Roman brick. Under the highly placed small lights of the nave are blank semicircular arcades in the interior. These arcades are part of the original pre-Norm. design; but they have been much interfered with in the 13th cent. and at later times. The tower has a double-splayed Saxon light in the basement, and there are two others of larger dimensions in the second stage. The top stage is pierced by double light windows divided by baluster shafts, and over these windows, on the E. and W., are small circular-splayed sound holes. The octagonal font is Perp.; the panels are sculptured with the Evangelistic emblems, alternating with shields charged with the symbols of the Passion. (For fuller details as to this church, see Carthew's *Hundred of Launditch*, ii. 791-4.) (Registers, 1538.)

Dunham, Little.—The church of St. Margaret

consists of chancel, nave of three bays, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. A N. chancel chapel has been restored. The body of the church was restored in 1862, and the chancel in 1868. There is a mixture of 13th, 14th, and 15th cent. work in the body of the church and the chancel. The porch and tower are Perp. The tower is said to date from 1431. The S. Perp. window of the chancel has a low sill with an elbowed sedile, adjoining a curious double piscina of E.E. date. The arcade of the N. aisle is late E.E., and there are two windows of that period in the S. wall. (Registers, 1562.)

Elmham, North.—The large church of St. Mary, on the brow of a hill overlooking the valley of the Wensum, consists of chancel, transept chapels, clerestoried nave of six bays with aisles, S. and W. porches, and W. tower. The chancel is late E.E., verging into Dec. *c.* 1270–80. The three level sedilia under trefoiled canopies and the double piscina are original. “The priests’ door is introduced in a very singular manner diagonally across the angle formed by the S. wall of the chancel and the E. wall of the aisle” (Carthew). The large chancel arch is Perp. The nave arcades, with alternate round and octagonal pillars, are E.E. The aisles have Dec. windows; the N. transept chapel is Dec., the S. Perp. The N. doorway, with a

singular shallow porch projection is E.E.; the S. doorway is of the same period, but has a plain Dec. porch. The clerestory has large good Perp. windows, and there is a similar one over the chancel arch, a not unusual arrangement in Norfolk churches of 15th cent. The tower, surmounted by a small spire, is good early Perp., c. 1400; the height, including the vane, is 119 feet; there is a W. porch within the buttresses. The octagonal font on three steps is Perp. There are numerous old poppy-head bench ends and other old seat-work in the nave. The carved pulpit of 1626 is inscribed *Verbum Dei Manet in Æternum*. This pulpit was made by Francis Floyd, parish clerk 1605-51. Floyd also made the altar, dated 1622, and inscribed *Christus Vera Vita*; it is carved with grapes and vine leaves. A chief feature of the church is the old screen-work. The parclose of the chapel bears on the panels Sts. Barbara, Cecilia, Dorothy, Sitha, Juliana, Petronilla, Agnes, and Christina. The panels of the N. chapel screen bear Sts. Giles, Jude, James the Less, Philip, John, Paul, &c. The scattered panels of the rood-screen were collected and replaced in their proper position in 1882; they include St. Benedict and St. Clement, and the four Latin Doctors on the doors. (Registers, 1538.)

Fransham, Great.—The small church of All

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Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower with low wooden lead-covered spire. There are traces of a S. aisle and chapel, which were cleared away *c.* 1800. A good deal of much-needed restoration took place in 1878. There is no particular architectural merit in any of the fabric as it now stands ; portions of E.E., Dec., and Perp. styles can be identified. The font is modern. On the chancel floor is the brass effigy in armour, under a canopy and with coats of arms, of Galfridus Fransham, 1414. Under the tower is the brass of *Cecilia uxor Joh. Legge* in a shroud, but the inscription and scroll are lost. (Registers, 1558.)

Fransham, Little.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, and S. porch. Over the porch is a room, now used as a bell-chamber and containing one bell. The old tower fell *c.* 1700. In 1742 there were three bells hanging in a thatched shed in the churchyard ; a faculty was granted for the sale of two, and the third was placed over the porch. The fabric has been much pulled about and altered, but is chiefly 14th cent. in the old parts. The best feature is the old square font with angular shafts, *c.* 1200. (Registers, 1538.)

Gateley.—The church of St. Helen consists of chancel, nave, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. The chancel was unhappily rebuilt and

a vestry added in 1866. The nave is early Perp., and the porch Tudor. On the S. side of the nave are traces of an early, probably pre-Conquest, blocked-up doorway with head and jambs of Roman tiles. The tower is Perp.; on a S. buttress are the arms of Thorpe and Baynard quarterly, and those of Northwood. Against the N. wall of the nave are the royal arms of Charles I. There are a few old carved seats, dated 1602. On the panels of the rood-screen, *c.* 1480, are the painted figures of St. Audrey, St. Elizabeth, the Blessed Virgin, St. Puella Ridibowne, St. Louis, Henry VI., St. Augustine (?), and Master John Schorne. (Registers, 1682.)

Godwick, a village of one farmhouse and six cottages, was formerly a separate parish, but has for a long time been consolidated with Tittleshall. The old church has been abandoned for more than three cents. It was reported of Godwick, in 1602, that "The church is wholly ruynated and decaied long since, unknowne by whose necligence." The ruined church tower, 16 feet square, is still standing.

Gressenhall.—The large cruciform church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of three bays with aisles, transepts, S. porch, and central tower. The lower stage of the tower is Norm.; the upper stage is Perp., and

bore on the battlements in Blomefield's days an inscription assigning the work to John Ferour and Joan his wife in the year 1491. The chancel is Perp.; in the S. wall are 3 graded sedilia, with heraldic sculpture at the back. On the floor are the incised effigies of a knight and his lady, which have had the great peculiarity of possessing faces and hands of brass; their date is *c.* 1350. The lower part of the chancel screen has panels painted with the four Latin Doctors, and Sts. Leonard, Margaret, Anthony, &c. The S. transept, called Hastings Chapel, was built by the L'Estranges early in the 16th cent.; it has a flat panelled ceiling, and a newel stairway in the S.W. angle leading to an upper chamber. Here stood the fine brass and long epitaph to Sir John Hastings and Lady Anne, his wife, but only the matrices now remain. The nave arcades and W. window are Dec. There are a large number of memorials of the 16th and 17th cents. in the chancel. A costly and drastic scheme of restoration was carried out in 1880 and again in 1901, involving no small amount of rebuilding. Traces of pre-Conquest building were brought to light at the latter date. (Registers, 1538—have been recently recovered after an absence from the church of upwards of 200 years.)

Horningtoft.—The small church of St.

Edmund consists of chancel, nave, and W. turret. The tower fell in 1797 and has not been rebuilt. The fabric was extensively restored in 1871, but retains many old portions chiefly of 13th cent. date. (Registers, 1541.)

Kempston.—The small church of St. Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower; but the whole was in miserable dilapidation through the devastating influence of unchecked ivy in 1904. No services were held for about a score of years. Recently some repairs have been effected and the roofs made water-tight. Most of the remains, including the font, are Perp. There are (or were) some remnants of the rood-screen under the tower. (Registers, 1721.)

Lexham, East.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and round tower shamefully smothered in ivy. There can be no doubt that this is an instance of a pre-Norm. circular tower. Some years ago the present writer had parts of the ivy dragged off to display the curious double window on the S.W. mentioned by Carthew. The N.W. angle of the nave also shows Saxon long-and-short work. The rest of the church is debased, but the rood-loft stairs doorway remains on the N. side, and there are some portions of stallwork in the chancel, said to

have come from Castleacre Priory. (Registers, 1538.)

Lexham, West.—The small church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and round tower, which is of early Norm. date and not Saxon, as some have supposed. The church was partly rebuilt by the Earl of Leicester in 1881. The chancel is E.E.; it has its old altar stone, and a low-side window. (Registers, 1689.)

Litcham.—The large church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave with aisles, and W. tower. It has undergone "thorough restoration." Most of the old fabric, including the font, is Perp. The brick tower was built by one Matthew Halcot, who died in 1675; it has some old stonework re-used. There is an ancient iron-bound poor box with three locks near the S. entrance. The chief feature of the church is the rood-screen (*c.* 1430), of exquisite tracery, which underwent renovation in 1903. The panels of the base (according to Carthew) bear the figures of Sts. Petronilla, Ursula, and four other female saints on the N. side; and Sts. Gregory, Edmund, Edward K. and M., Hubert, William of Norwich, and King Henry VI. on the S. side. The hexagonal pulpit dates from about 1500. (Registers, 1550.)

Longham.—The church of St. Andrew

consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It was "thoroughly restored" in 1878. It is a good example of a village church of the advanced Perp. period, but is not specially noteworthy. There is a rood staircase, opened out during a renovation of 1898, and some remains of a screen and panelling. (Registers, 1558.)

Mileham.—The church of St. John Baptist consists of chancel, nave with aisles, and a tower at the W. end of the N. aisle. The lower part of the tower serves as an entrance porch. The two lower stages of the tower appear to be Henry III., and the top stage Edward I., with Perp. battlements. The nave arcades are *c.* 1200, but the aisles and clerestory windows, as well as those of the chancel, are a good deal later in the 15th cent. The octagonal font is Perp. There is some valuable old 14th cent. glass. The W. window of the nave has the figures of Sts. John Baptist, Catherine, and Margaret, whilst in the E. window of the chancel are Sts. John Baptist, Agatha, and a bishop. In the S. chancel window are a monk and nun kneeling, and behind two packhorses; below these the word *Broun*. In Blomefield's day there were the words, "Thomas Broun, Peddar." The hexagonal pulpit is *c.* 1500. The wooden poor box, with iron lid and three locks, bears the date

1639. During alterations in 1848 a curious piscina, with an inner recess, was brought to light in the S. wall of the chancel, together with double sedilia; also the rood-loft stairs. (Registers, 1538.)

Scarning.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel with S. vestry, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It is a fine building, erected throughout in the 15th cent., but at different dates. The chancel is earlier than the nave, and the nave than the tower. The tower has good double battlements, and a blank arcade filled with dressed flints runs round the base. The central stage has square sound-holes, with cusped saltires for tracery. The font is E.E. The rood-screen is of open Perp. tracery. Parts of the rood-loft, supported on brackets, were removed about fifty years ago. This screen is remarkable, like that of Salhouse, for having a sanctus bell attached to it. The pulpit has Tudor panelling, with arabesque work on the sounding board and back. The font is singular; the upper part is E.E., and the base Perp. The vestry on the S. side of the chancel, which used to have an upper chamber, was erected by Michael Denby in 1576. He was curate here and occupied the upper room; he was presented to the rectory in 1583. (Registers, 1538.)

Stanfield.—The church of St. Margaret

consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is E.E., c. 1240, with double piscina. The doorways of the nave are of the same date, but the windows are later insertions. The Perp. rood-screen shows traces of former gilding and painting. There are many good poppy-head bench ends with elbow-pieces in the nave. The plain octagonal font is probably E.E. (Registers, 1558.)

Oxwick.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. bell turret. The lower part of the square W. tower remains and is used as a vestry. The whole fabric, including the font, is of fairly good work, c. 1320. (Registers, 1538.)

Pattesley, a small parish adjacent to Oxwick, with which it is united, lost its church (St. John Baptist) soon after the Reformation. Fragments of its walls are built up in the W. end of the one farm-house in the parish. The return of Bishop Redman's Commission (1602) certifies that the church was then "whollye ruined and decaied." The living is annexed to that of Mattishall.

Rougham.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, with N. aisle, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The nave was restored in 1867, and the chancel in 1878. The tower is 14th cent.; over the W. doorway, under an ogee niche, is a well-carved but mutilated rood

with Sts. Mary and John. There used to be a N. aisle, the arcade of which was E.E. The E. and S. windows of the chancel are excellent examples of advanced Perp. A ruined chapel on the N. of the chancel was pulled down in 1876. On the chancel floor are the portraiture in brass of a civilian, with his two wives and sixteen children, as well as five shields of arms. There is no inscription left, but this brass is known to commemorate William Yelverton, who died in 1586, aged 86. (Registers, 1783.)

Swanton Morley.—The fine church of All Saints, consisting of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and lofty W. tower, is of value to architectural students, as its date can be pretty closely ascertained. It was in course of building in 1379, for in that year Sir William de Morley left ten marks and his gilt cup towards the cost of its erection. The architecture shows throughout the transition from Dec. to Perp. The proportions of the tower are much spoilt by the great height of the top stage as compared with the three other divisions. There are traceried sound-holes below the lofty bell-chamber windows. Until recently the panelled base of the old rood-screen was extant; only two panels now remain, which were inserted in the quire stalls erected in 1902. The S. door is original, and well carved and

panelled; note the *swan* and *tun* on this door and also on the chancel roof, intended as a rebus for the name of the parish. (Registers, 1548.)

Tittleshall.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is Dec., *c.* 1320; the N. side has been spoilt throughout its entire length by a most unsightly brick building, which served as a mausoleum for the Cokes of Holkham. The nave windows are about 1450. The octagonal font is Dec. The tower is also 14th cent. In the chancel are a series of great marble monuments to the Coke family. On the N. side is the recumbent effigy of Sir Edward Coke, Lord Chief Justice, 1634, and near by is the monument, with effigies of herself and eight children, to Bridget (Paston), his first wife, who died in 1598. The most celebrated of the later Coke monuments is one against the S. wall to Jane (Dutton), first wife of Thomas William, first Earl of Leicester, of the Roberts (afterwards Coke) family; she died in 1800, and this white marble monument, executed by Nollekens in 1805, cost them the vast sum of 3000 guineas. (Registers, 1538.)

Weasenham All Saints.—The church consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and the remains of a S.W. tower. The tower was pulled down and the nave shortened in 1653.

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The N. aisle retains its original length. A faculty was granted in 1796 for demolishing the S. aisle, and selling 12 tons of lead worth £174, and two damaged bells worth £19. The chancel, too, of this unhappy church has been partially pulled down and rebuilt. On the old porch, when the tower was destroyed, a singularly ugly red brick belfry was erected. Carthew says (1879) that in this scandalously neglected church "I have seen lumps of turf in the free seats, cut for kneeling cushions." (Registers, 1568.)

Weasenham St. Peter.—The church consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, N. porch, and low W. tower. The fabric underwent considerable restoration in 1870 on far too rigorous a scale. The old and new can hardly be distinguished in the chancel; it is at present a blend of Dec. and Perp. The embattled nave has some handsome advanced Perp. windows. The porch is of the same date. The tower is chiefly of late E.E. work. The font is dated 1607. (Registers, 1581.)

Wellingham.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is obvious E.E., and the nave has been the same, but with later Perp. windows inserted. There are traces of a former S. aisle of three bays. The entire inner length of the building 58½ feet and the width

15½ feet. There are traces of the rood-loft stairs, and the lower portion of the screen remains with the shafts painted in "barber's pole." The panels bear figures much defaced. St. Sebastian, St. George, and St. Michael can be identified, and the date 1532. The octagonal font is E.E. There was considerable and very much needed restoration and clearing in 1896. (Registers, 1765.)

Wendling.—The small church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower, mainly in the Perp. style, as shown by the windows, though much of the masonry is 13th cent. The fabric was restored in 1858 and again in 1896. On the south side of the nave is a shallow chapel or transept, with a large four-light Perp. window. A special feature of the church is the Perp. font which has sculptured on its panels the Seven Sacraments and the Crucifixion. The lower part of the chancel screen was, until recently, in good preservation. Carthew (1879) describes the panels as "diapered or powdered, and their painting and gilding still fresh." Subsequently they were barbarously stained and varnished. (Registers, 1539.)

Whissonsett.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel and interior were rigorously restored in 1873. The chancel has several

traces of E.E. work, but has Dec. windows ; the nave is in the main Perp. ; the tower is Dec., with Perp. alterations. The octagonal font with sunk quatrefoils in the panels is early Dec. There are several old brasses now under the tower—William Bozon, 1460, John Bozon, 1489, and Thomas Gybon, 1484, and two undated. (Registers, 1700.)

A pre-Norm. headstone cross, with knot-work of a Celtic type, was dug up in the churchyard in 1900.

Worthing.—The small church of St. Margaret consists of nave, S. porch, and low round tower. With the exception of the Norm. tower, and a good doorway of like date, the features of the church are mainly Perp. The fabric has fortunately never required severe restoration, as several acres of land were bequeathed for its maintenance and repair. (Registers, 1653.)

THE DEANERY OF BURNHAM

Bagthorpe.—The church of St. Mary was entirely rebuilt in 1852, in succession to what Blomefield calls "a very little, mean edifice." The only point of interest is the old large font, three sides of which are rough, as though it had stood in a tower or angle ; the remaining side is ornamented with a circle and interlacing cable work. It is often called Saxon, but is more probably early Norm. (Registers, 1562.)

Barmer.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, and round W. tower. It was long in ruins. In 1870 it was only used for burials ; it was restored in 1885 after a simple fashion. The old parts of both nave and chancel are E.E. of the first part of the 13th cent. The round tower is Norm. (Registers, 1824.)

Barsham, East.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel and nave, with the base of the old tower serving as a porch. It was in a state of decay in 1602. The building was restored in 1880, when some old poppy-head bench ends were used up in the seating. (Registers, 1549.)

Barsham, North.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, and W. bellcote. The chancel was restored in 1897–8, when the rood-loft stairs were exposed. Two panels of the old screen form the back of one of the seats. The plain hexagonal font is probably Dec. There are evidences that the present building has been shortened both at the E. and W. ends. (Registers, 1558.)

Barsham, West. The small church of the Assumption of the Virgin consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. bellcote. In the N. wall of the nave are two small circular windows and splayed on both sides. These are similar to and in the same position as the small round windows at Witton and Coltishall; they are undoubtedly Saxon. The blocked-up N. doorway is Norm.; the S. doorway Trans. Norm.; and there are certain E.E. and Dec. features. (Registers, 1756.)

Broomsthorpe, a small parish to the E. of East Rudham, with which it is now united, had a church of its own (St. John the Evangelist) in pre-Reformation days; even its site is now forgotten.

Burnham Deepdale.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, and W. tower. The church has been “restored” at least three times within the last 50 years. The circular tower is Norm.; the nave and



BURNHAM DEEPDALE FONT (NORTH SIDE)

chancel late E.E. The font is most noteworthy, and though usually termed Saxon is without doubt Norm. It is carved out of a block of Barnack stone, and is 2 feet 5 inches square, and stands on five shafts. The N., S., and E. sides are carved with figures representative of the twelve months, having the names of six of these written in Roman capitals; the W. side bears trees and foliage. (Registers, 1539.)

Burnham Market, or rather **Burnham Westgate**, for most of the small town is in that parish, has a somewhat fine church (St. Mary) consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. It was restored in 1880 after a poor fashion; the plate tracery of the chancel windows is shallow; all the windows seem to have been renewed. The plain octagon font appears to be old but vigorously scraped. On the S. side of the chancel, in the usual place, is an exceptionally low low-side window about 2 feet square. A sill on this side has been lowered to serve for sedilia. The porch has an upper chamber; under the tower is the effigy of a civilian carved in relief on a coffin slab, of the time of Edward I. The tower (Perp.) battlements are the special feature of the church; they are panelled and well carved with the Scriptural story of our Lord's life, from the Salutation to the Crucifixion. (Registers, 1538.)

Burnham Norton.—The church of St. Margaret stands out conspicuously on a hill facing the sea at some little distance from the village; it consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. porch, and a circular W. tower. The round Norm. tower of flints and pebbles is of a fair height, and one of the very few of this construction which retains the whole of its original small round-headed windows; there has been no later addition save the Perp. battlements. The church underwent a happily mild restoration in 1890. The aisle windows are all alike—three-light late Perp. with embattled transoms—and good of their kind. On the occasion of a visit five or six years ago the E. window and one of the S. windows of the S. aisle were completely blocked up with ivy. Weather mouldings on the tower show the steep pitch of a former roof when the church was aisleless. The arcades between the nave and aisles are both Trans. Norm., *c.* 1180. The chancel is chiefly Dec. of second half of 14th cent. The painted rood-screen (dated 1548) has four saints on the panels of each side, but the figures are now almost gone. Among them King Ethelbert, St. Gregory, the Blessed Virgin, and the donors of the screen have been identified. There is a large image bracket each side of the chancel arch low down, and two others much higher up. The rood-loft stairs are on the N.

The special feature of the church is the wooden pulpit, *c.* 1475, of small dimensions, but with beautifully painted panels ; it has been restored, but after a most careful and delicate fashion. The panels bear the four Latin Doctors of the Church, together with the kneeling figures of John Goldale and Catherine his wife, who were the donors, and for whose souls the prayers of the faithful are invited. The pulpit is somewhat spoilt by a Jacobean or late Elizabethan sounding-board and back-piece. The noteworthy square font is of Norm. date, the bowl about 2 feet 6 inches square, and 19 inches deep. It is supported by five small shafts of equal size. The sides of the bowl are incised with arcades, lattice work, and other designs. (Registers, 1559.)

Burnham Overy is a small seaport ; the parish includes the village of Overy Staith. The parish church of St. Clement is on an eminence by Overy Town (as it is termed) ; it consists of chancel, nave, large S. porch, and central tower. The chancel was restored after a fashion in 1835 ; it is E.E., with triplet E. window, and three steps up to the altar ; it has had a chapel of three bays on the S. side. The central tower is Dec. externally, but is of Norm. origin. There was a wall painting of St. Christopher on the N. side, but it was speedily re-whitewashed after its discovery. (Registers, 1653.)

Burnham Sutton is a small parish forming part of the town of Burnham Market. The church of St. Albert has long been in ruins and smothered with ivy. It is consolidated with the two other parishes of Burnham Ulph and Burnham Thorpe. (Registers, 1653.)

Burnham Thorpe.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave with aisles, and W. tower ; it is mainly of the Perp. period. The E. end of the chancel, *c.* 1400, used to be richly chequered in freestone and flints, according to a drawing of 1810 ; it has a canopied niche each side of the E. window. The church is now of no special interest save for its association with Nelson. His father, Edmund Nelson, was rector and is buried in the church, but the rectory where the naval hero was born was long since pulled down. When raised to the peerage his title was Baron Nelson of the Nile and Burnham Thorpe. The oak lectern, presented by the Lords of the Admiralty in 1881, is made from the timbers of H.M.S. *Victory*. There is a tablet to his father, who was forty-six years rector of this parish ; he died in 1802. In the chancel is a noteworthy mediæval brass to Sir William Calthorpe, lord of the manor and patron of the church, who died in 1420 ; the effigy is in armour, with the collar of SS., beneath a canopy with shields and birds holding scrolls ; the marginal inscription is mutilated.

The church was repaired in 1842, and considerably restored at a heavy cost in 1892-5, when a S. aisle was added. (Registers, 1559.)

Burnham Ulph.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. bell-turret. The chancel was restored in 1879 and the nave in 1892. The chancel arch is Trans. Norm., *c.* 1290, and there is a small deeply splayed light in the S. wall of the nave, which is probably of like date. On the N. of the nave is a round-headed window with dog-tooth moulding, which is also Trans. The S. porch is Dec., and there are several 14th cent. windows. There is a low-side window on the N. side of the chancel below a tall lancet light with trefoil head, *c.* 1240; the opening is square and about 3 feet from the ground. (Registers, 1653.)

Creake, North.—The large and handsome church of St. Mary consists of chancel with chapel, clerestoried nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. Considerable and judicious restorations were effected between 1895 and 1898. In the chancel, which is chiefly of early Dec. style, is an Easter sepulchre recess in the N. wall. In the centre is a fine brass, *c.* 1500. The effigy is clad in a cassock, from the belt of which hangs a rosary and bag; he also wears a hood fastened by a single button. On the left arm rests the model of a church. The

inscription is lost. There is no suggestion of priesthood about the figure, and it is supposed, with some probability, that it represents Sir William Calthorpe as second founder of this church. The hammer-beam roofs (Perp.) are exceptionally good and retain much of the original colouring ; the chancel roof has figures of angels and apostles, the latter carrying scrolls with the articles of the Apostles' Creed in Latin text. The chancel screen, as it now stands, was erected in 1897-8 ; when the present writer first visited this church, about 1875, there were several painted panels of the old screen in the vestry. (Registers, 1538.)

Creake, South.—The church of St. Mary is another large and well-preserved structure, consisting of chancel, with N. sacristy, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The length of the church, exclusive of tower, is 126 feet ; the width of chancel 20 feet ; the length of nave and aisles 74 feet, and their total width 51 feet. The oldest part is the chancel, *c.* 1270-80. Tower, vestry, and windows of aisles are early 14th cent. The body of the church, with lofty clerestory, is early 15th cent. The hammer-beam roof of the nave is a fine piece of work, though plainer than its fellow at N. Creake ; there are traces of the original colouring. There is an exceptionally good rood-screen retaining its doors ;

the stairs to the roof-loft are on the S. side. The octagonal Perp. font stands on two steps, the upper one panelled ; both bowl and shaft have been much enriched, but the subjects are undated. There is a brass to John Norton, clerk, 1509, vested in a cope ; as he holds a crozier, Mr. Macklin (*The Brasses of England*, 132) rightly assumes that he was "in some way monastic." There are some admirable examples of 15th cent. seatings in the nave. The massive iron-bound oak chest has three locks and is lined with cedar. A few of the windows of both aisles and clerestory retain portions of stained glass of 15th cent. The porch is a good example of Dec. work ; it bears the monogram of the Blessed Virgin in flint work. (Registers, 1538.)

Dunton.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The whole building was considerably restored in 1854, and the porch rebuilt in 1896. The stairs and doorway to the rood-loft are extant. In the chancel is a demi-octagonal pillar piscina of 14th cent. date. The fabric generally is of the 14th cent. style, but with some Perp. windows and other details. (Registers, 1784.)

The parish has been long known as Dunton-cum-Doughton. Doughton was in early days a separate parish with its own church.

Fakenham.—One of Norfolk's best market

towns, has a large church (Sts. Peter and Paul), with chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and lofty W. tower. The chancel is late Dec. with good five-light E. window of flowing tracery, and similar side windows of three lights ; in the S. wall are three sedilia and a piscina niche with ogee niches, crockets and finials terminating in a horizontal moulding—a fine composition. There is a rood-screen of good tracery, *c.* 1400. The nave also and aisles are late Dec. The tower (renovated 1899) is excellent Perp. work of the time of Henry VI. with panelled buttresses and a good six-light W. window. The porch, with room above, was built in 1497. The octagonal font (Perp.) has in the panels the Evangelistic emblem, the Trinity, and symbols of the Passion, whilst on the shaft are the crowned initials P. (for Sts. Peter and Paul), which also appear above the W. entrance of the tower. Though the church has been stripped of many brasses, the following remain—a civilian (headless) and two female figures, *c.* 1450, in the parish chest ; four double hearts, each engraved *Jhu merci ladi help*, *c.* 1470 ; Richard Betteson, with date 1495 in Arabic numerals ; and a female figure in the parish chest, *c.* 1510. (Registers, 1720.)

Fulmodeston-cum-Croxton. — These united parishes had a joint church (Christ Church) built for them in 1882. Fulmodeston church

(St. Mary) consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower, chiefly in ruins, but a part preserved to serve as a mortuary chapel. (Registers, 1556.)

At Croxton, a mile to the N.W., is the small church of St. John Baptist, with thatched roof, now in an advanced state of decay.

Houghton.—The church of St. Martin, which stands in Houghton Park, consists of chancel, nave with aisles, W. porch, and a small W. tower. It is known to have been considerably rebuilt (in 1271) by Ralph de Walpole, then vicar of this parish, and afterwards Bishop of Norwich (1289–1299); but the nave arcades are of an earlier date near the beginning of that cent. The tower and porch were built by Sir Robert Walpole, first Earl of Orford, in 1729; at the same time other alterations were made in the fabric. The N. aisle was the work of Thomas Walpole, who died in 1513. At the E. end of the nave is a noteworthy large effigy in grey marble of a priest in eucharistic vestments, with a low ogee canopy over his head, which is usually said to be a prior through a misconception as to the work on the chasuble; it is dated 1307. The slab on which the effigy rests is 8 feet 6 inches long. There is a monument to Catherine, wife of Sir Robert Walpole, who died in 1737. (Registers, 1654.)

Kettlestone.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, W. porch, and

octagonal W. tower. The unusual tower, of octagon plan from the ground, is 14th cent., but most of the rest of the old parts of the fabric are 15th cent. The chancel was rebuilt, and other parts severely restored, including the E. bay of the nave, in 1870-1. The chancel arch then removed was of clunch or hard chalk. This drastic scheme also included the rebuilding of the porch and of the top stage of the tower. The octagonal Perp. font has on the panels the arms of France and England, the crossed keys of St. Peter, the arms of the see of Norwich, the emblem of the Trinity, a cross, and the two swords of St. Paul. (Registers, 1540.)

Pensthorpe, a small parish near Fakenham, suffered its church to fall into ruins in early post-Reformation days. The portions now standing of the N. wall of the nave are incorporated with farm-buildings, and the actual site is a cow-shed.

Rudham, East.—The large church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. transept, S. porch, and W. tower. It had been repaired in 1820 and again in 1860; but in 1876 part of the tower fell, destroying much of the nave, with the result that almost the whole fabric was rebuilt. Of old work there are four good E.E. lancets in the chancel, and an original S. window of the S. transept of the first half of the 14th cent. On the apex of the roof

above this window is a floreated gable cross of the same date and of much beauty. The well-groined roof of the S. porch (late Perp.) has a good central boss of the Holy Trinity. On the S. side of the chancel is a pillar piscina, which is the only bit of Norm. work left in the church. Numerous fragments of carved and coloured Derbyshire alabaster were found in an opening of the N. wall of the chancel, which doubtless originally formed a reredos to the high altar, of 15th cent. work; they have been carefully pieced together by the present vicar. There is an exceptionally fine coffin slab of 13th cent. date, with a wheel cross at both the head and foot. This church is on the site of an Austin priory founded here about 1140; but a few years afterwards it was removed about a mile eastward to Coxford, in this parish, on the banks of the Coke, and was henceforth known by that name. (Registers, 1565.)

Rudham, West.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, and a low W. tower. It was long in a dilapidated state, but was restored in 1891. There are remains of E.E. work in the W. wall and S. aisle. Two of the windows of this aisle are of early Edward I. date. The arcade of the aisle is also early Dec. The rest of the church is Perp. It is known that the chancel was rebuilt by the prior and convent of Coxford in

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1456. The chancel piscina niche, of ogee form, has sculptured emblems of the Passion. A trefoil-headed opening in the W. face of the easternmost pillar of the arcade was cut to support the screen, and has no connection, as alleged, with heart burial. There is a rude early 17th cent. almsbox; also a variety of good poppy-head bench-ends in the aisle. The old rood-screen, in poor condition, was unhappily cleared away in 1891. We saw it in a barn in 1903. (Registers, 1563.)

Ryburgh, Little.—This parish is now consolidated with Great Ryburgh. The church of All Saints has long ago been suffered to fall into ruins; parts of the W. and S. walls are still standing. (Registers, 1688.)

Sculthorpe.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave with aisles, and S.W. tower. The tower, of fine proportions, dates from the first half of the 14th cent.; the base forms the main entrance to the church. Sir Robert Knollys rebuilt the rest of the church, which used to consist of nave, chancel, and N. aisle. The chancel, which was very long, extending 10 feet beyond its successor, was allowed to become ruinous; it was rebuilt in 1847. The special feature of the church is the Norm. font. The bowl is square and stands on five small columns with cushion caps. Cable moulding runs round the rim. The N., S., and W.

sides are carved with elaborate geometrical interlacings, whilst the E. side is sculptured with the Adoration of the Magi, the figures placed in five panels. The following brasses remain in the church:—the effigy of a man kneeling in armour (1470), remarkable for the English word gentleman in the midst of a Latin inscription, which begins: *Hic jacet Henricus Unton Gentilman*; two small figures of a man and wife, with seven boys and one girl, commemorating John and Elizabeth Humpton, 1521; and an undated brass to John and Margaret Stebyrd. (Registers, 1561.)

Snoring, Little.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and detached W. round tower. The Norm. circular tower stands 5 feet S.W. of the church; the lower part of its E. side is flattened, and has a round-headed archway, which has evidently opened into a former small Norm. nave. The stilted horseshoe S. doorway of the church (under a Dec. porch), as well as certain features of the chancel, and of the W. end of the nave, show that a new building was erected here towards the close of the 12th cent. in the late Norm. or Trans. style. The font, richly adorned with foliage, is also late Norm. (Registers, 1559.)

Stibbard.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. It was restored in 1862. The building is

of no special interest ; the chancel is of the Dec. period, and the nave Perp. (Registers, 1733.)

Syderstone.—The small church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and a round W. tower. The church formerly had aisles, but these were taken down in 1784. There was considerable restoration in 1859. The circular tower is Norm., and there are remains of a Norm. arcade on the S. side of the nave. The present windows of the nave are of Dec. design, and these of the sides of the chancel Perp. (Registers, 1584.)

Tatterford.—The church of St. Margaret, of this small parish, was rebuilt in 1862 after the E.E. style. The old fabric, unhappily destroyed, was mainly of Norm. date. The living is now consolidated with that of Tattersett. (Registers, 1560.)

Tattersett.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was restored in 1896, and various repairs were done to the fabric at different dates during last cent. An interesting wall-painting was discovered in 1908. The present characteristics of the church are almost entirely 15th cent. Many of the seats retain portions of 15th cent. bench ends and backs. (Registers, 1763. Mr. Bryant states that "the older ones were burnt by a former rector in a fit of spleen" !)

Another church (St. Andrew) stood in this parish, but it has long been in ruins.

Waterden is a small parish with a population in 1901 of only 27. The church of All Saints, hidden by trees, now consists of chancel, nave, and N. porch. It is, however, only a portion of a larger old structure. The arcades of a S. aisle and some remains of the tower can still be traced. The fabric was much injured in the gale of March 1895, but it has since been restored. (Registers, 1730.)

THE DEANERY OF FLEGG

Ashby-with-Oby.—A united parish to the S.W. of Potter Heigham. The church of Ashby (St. Mary) has long since disappeared. There are, too, but small traces of Oby church ; some of the foundations and a number of encaustic tiles were exposed in 1882. The two livings are consolidated with that of Thurne. (Registers, 1559.)

Bastwick.—Judging from the size of the tower, this long deserted church was one of fair proportions. All traces of it have, however, disappeared, save the square Perp. tower. For several generations this part of the consecrated building has been used as a dwelling-house. There are now four floors in it, communicating one with the other by ladders. The upper stages are used for various kinds of incongruous stores.

Billockby.—The church of All Saints was struck by lightning during a great gale in 1762, as recorded in the registers. It had previously been in a bad state of repair, and from that time fell into disuse and ruin. But in 1872 a small plain building was built up within the

chancel ; the best that can be said of it is that it is watertight. The melancholy ruins stand on high ground away from all houses, and are encircled by tall trees ; the considerable remains of the nave show that the church was originally one of exceptional beauty, of the close of the 14th cent. The flints have been beautifully faced, and the quoins are of good freestone. A curious feature may be noticed on a level with the spring of the window arches, namely, a short ragged staff of freestone sloping towards each side of the windows in the midst of the flint-work. The rood-loft stairs are nearly perfect on the N. side of the built-up chancel arch. There is a good N. doorway, and the decaying S. porch is still standing. Most of the lofty W. tower has fallen, and the remainder is smothered with devastating ivy. Near the tower arch is an oven and flue. (Registers, 1562.)

Burgh St. Margaret.—The thatched church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It underwent so thorough a "restoration" in 1876 that there is nothing left of any old stone details, save the small S. Norm. doorway, with alternate billet and chevron mouldings, and the remains of a blocked-up N. door of like date and similar design. The small tower was considerably restored in 1900. Against the S. wall of the chancel is a brass to John Burton, 1608. (Registers, 1813.)

Burgh St. Mary.—At a short distance from Burgh St. Margaret the remains of the old ruined church of Burgh St. Mary still stand in the fields. The skeleton of the round Norm. tower is 18 feet in outer diameter ; the octagonal upper stage (Perp.) is in a dilapidated state. There is a fair-sized archway into the nave of Perp. date. The foundations of the continuous nave and chancel can be readily traced. This is one of those rare cases in which the actual size of these small Norm. churches attached to round towers can be readily gained ; the internal measurement, exclusive of the tower, is 42 feet by 16 feet.

Caister-by-the-Sea.—There were originally two parish churches, the one dedicated to St. Edmund and the other to the Holy Trinity ; they were consolidated in 1608. An archidiaconal report of 1602 states that the church of Caister St. Edmund was “decaied and profaned and made a barn.” There are some remains of this once parish church, close to the high road, about a mile to the W. of Caister proper, in the hamlet called West Caister. These remains lie in the gardens of “Glebe House” and consist of a portion of a small square W. tower and a piece of walling to the N., which shows that there was formerly a N. aisle. The ruins are smothered in ivy.

The church of the Holy Trinity consists of

chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. In the N. wall of the nave is a small widely splayed lancet of early 13th cent. The base of the lofty tower is Dec. The S. aisle, with its arcade of four arches, is about the close of the same period; the circular quatrefoil window at the end of this aisle is noteworthy. To a like date pertain the N. and S. entrances (the former disused) and the N. and S. windows of the chancel. In the N. wall of the nave are two large three-light windows, *c.* 1450. To the same period belong the upper stages of the tower and of the chancel. There is an exceptionally large and somewhat cumbrous octagonal Perp. font, with an awkward embattled top. It measures 3 feet 6 inches in diameter, and is only suited for a much larger church. The old font, as shown in a drawing of 1813, was a square one of Purbeck marble supported by eight small pillars and a central shaft of early 13th cent. date. This ancient font was barbarously ejected about 1830 in room of a poor modern substitute. This debased font was in its turn removed in 1902 to the chapel of ease at West Caister to make room for the larger one which was brought here from a cottager's garden at Eye, Suffolk. On the S. side of the chancel are three good Dec. sedilia with piscina under ogee arches. Under the tower, removed from the chancel, are two big 18th cent. paintings of Moses and

Aaron. The church was restored in 1894. (Registers, 1563.)

Clippesby.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It is a long low building with several interesting features. The round Norm. tower was raised by the addition of an octagonal belfry stage at the extensive restoration of 1875. On the N. side is a good Norm. doorway, with alternate billet and chevron mouldings. In the N. wall are two small lancet lights, *c.* 1200. In the S. wall of the chancel is a good example of a piscina niche of Trans. Norm., and there is a holy water stoup niche of a like date by the N. door. The S. porch and entrance are *c.* 1400, but are a good deal made up from a former Norm. doorway. There is a two-light Perp. window in the N. wall of the nave. A three-light Perp. window at the E. end of the S. wall is remarkable for having a shallow image niche in the farther jamb facing W. A clever piece of painted groining gives the effect of a canopy, and the back of it is powdered with the sacred monogram. The octagonal Perp. font has a well-designed moulding of supporting angels; the base has a series of very small niches. On the chancel floor is a brass with effigies to John and Julian Clippesby, 1594, and their four children. In the nave is the brass of a civilian and his wife. The inscription has

gone; but affixed to the N. door is a broken fragment which seems to have belonged to this brass, bearing the name of Thomas Pallyng and the date, 1503. A palimpsest fragment was dug up in the rectory garden bearing part of an inscription to John Heron, rector 1472. (Registers, 1732.)

Filby.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave and aisles, N. porch, and W. tower. The nave is thatched, the aisles leaded, and the chancel slated. The church underwent much restoration in 1873, to which date belongs the porch. There are traces of a former S. porch. The nave arcades are late Dec. The five small quatrefoil clerestory lights over each arcade are of the like date, c. 1360; they alternate on the exterior with the like number of blind quatrefoils filled up with flint. To the same period belong the windows of the chancel and of the N. aisle. The nave roof of trussed-rafter construction is also Dec. The window of the S. aisle and the E. window of the N. aisle are Tudor. The rest of the S. aisle windows have been renewed in a like style. The lofty Perp. tower has well-panelled pedimented battlements, with the four Latin Doctors at the angles. The font is an octagon of Purbeck marble of early 13th cent. date, supported on a central shaft and eight smaller ones. There is a fine base of the old screen remaining with painted panels; the

upper portion was added in 1886. The figures on the panels are Sts. Cecilia, George, Catherine, Peter, Paul, Margaret, Michael weighing souls, and Barbara. The hexagonal pulpit has traceried panels, *c.* 1500. The original inner doorway to the tower staircase is heavily clamped with iron, and contains no fewer than seven locks. The most valuable of the church ornaments and muniments were probably secured in a chamber of the tower. There is a like door at Hingham. (See Brandon's *Parish Churches*, i. 45-46.) (Registers, 1599.)

Hemsby.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It was vigorously restored in 1868. The fabric seems to be Perp. throughout, save the porch and part of the E. wall of the tower. On this wall are the weather mouldings of a roof of a much steeper pitch. The W. window of the basement of the tower, as well as the elaborate porch, are late Dec. The porch has an upper room; it is supported by a groined roof with elaborately carved bosses. The three large windows on each side of the nave are late Perp., and so is the E. window of the chancel. The two S. windows of the chancel and the one of the N. have plain intersecting Dec. tracery. The 15th cent. part of the tower has four sound-holes of quatrefoil shape. The octagonal font has the Evangelistic symbols alternating

with uncharged shields; the base is square and supported by four lions. There is a piscina niche with five-foil head under a square hood-mould in the S. wall of the nave close to the screen; the drain opening is covered with a grotesque face. There is a fairly good old rood-screen (restored). The nave roof is notable for its quaint bosses, carved with angels, grotesques, birds, deer, flowers, and shields. Rood-loft stairs remain on the N. side. The chancel has a lowered window-sill to serve for sedilia. (Registers, 1566.)

Herringby, immediately to the S.E. of Stokesby, has long been united to the latter parish. The vanished church had the exceptional dedication to St. Ethelbert. The church became collegiate in 1447, and was connected with a hospital supporting eight almsmen; the church probably fell into ruin, when Henry VIII. seized the endowments.

Martham.—The fine lofty church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave with N. and S. aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. There is nothing about it older than the last half of the 15th cent. The church was "restored" on a much too extensive scale in 1855. The elaborate hammer-beam roof is quite new. The chancel was entirely rebuilt from the ground after an exuberantly flamboyant character; though the work is good of its kind and obviously costly, it is

un-English in character and quite out of keeping with the dignified Perp. style of the rest of the church. The great windows of the aisles and the clerestory, yielding a larger area of glass than solid wall, must have presented a fine appearance when all filled with the wealth of painted glass for which they were specially designed. At present they are all plainly glazed save the E. windows of each aisle, wherein have been placed a variety of fragments of old painted glass. Most of it consists of small figures of angels or apostles or other saints ; but in the centre light of the window of the S. aisle is a large figure of St. Michael weighing souls ; the white figures in the one scale and the black figures in the other are treated after a realistic fashion not devoid of humour. In the N. aisle window the principal figures are a crucifix, with Sts. Mary and John ; the crowning with thorns ; and the Annunciation. The arcades of five arches on each side are unusually lofty. The octagonal font is enriched with sculptures of the Seven Sacraments. Over the chancel arch there used to be a large wall-painting of the Doom. The porch has a groined roof, with room above. The original S. door under the porch is noteworthy ; it has a handsomely carved border of vine leaves and grapes ; the iron work of the key plate and the latch-ring is also good.

The church is of dressed flints with stone facings throughout, and it has a panelled base-moulding all round. On the N. side, at the E. end, the cunning arrangement for supporting the thickening in the wall for the rood-loft stairs should be noticed. The fine W. tower is crowned with a short lead spirelet. There is an old parish chest at the W. end of the church, heavily clamped with iron, and with a coved lid; it is probably older than any part of the present fabric. A large number of original poppy heads are worked up into the seating. (Registers, 1558.)

Mautby.—The small church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle and porch, and tower. The roofs of the church and the chancel are thatched. The Norm. round tower has an upper octagonal embattled stage of Perp. date, which is gained by a turret staircase on the N. side. The main features of the church are Dec. The chancel windows have simple intersecting tracery, the E. window being a fine five-light example. The S. aisle is separated from the nave by four arches. The arcade (rebuilt in 1884) is of Dec. date, with octagonal piers and responds; the nave windows and doorway are also 14th cent. There is a good Perp. archway into the tower; it is of quite exceptional size to open into a round tower. There is a graceful

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trefoil-headed piscina niche in the respond of the arcade, to serve an altar in front of the screen. The chancel, which is of lofty pitch, is entered by a high step, and there are three steep steps up to the altar. On the S. side are three graded sedilia with cinquefoil heads and a double piscina. The raised levels for the quire seats still remain. They are arranged on the returned plan, and there is some old 15th cent. panelling in front. The entrance to the rood-loft remains on the N. side. The 15th cent. chancel screen was much restored in 1906 and crowned with a Rood. In a panel of the base is a small pointed opening, $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; its object was to secure a view of the elevation of the Host for one kneeling in front of the screen. In a N. window in the chancel are some remains of Dec. glass. In the S. wall of the nave, under an ogee-shaped founder's arch, is the effigy of a knight in mail, who was probably the member of the Mautby family who built the S. aisle in the 14th cent., whence this was removed at the time of the aisle's demolition. The effigy has been much mutilated; there is an edging of fleur-de-lys on the front of the slab on which it rests. Margaret, daughter and heir to John Mautby, lord of this manor, became the wife of John Paston, son of the renowned judge, in 1440. After her

husband's death in 1456, Margaret usually resided at Mautby, whence she wrote a large number of the celebrated Paston letters. She died in 1484, and by will left her body to be buried "in the ele of the cherch of Mauteby byefore the ymage of Our Lady there; in which ele reste the bodies of divers myn auncetres whose sowles God assoile." Elaborate instructions follow as to the nature of her monument. She also provided by will for twelve poor men of her tenants in white gowns and hoods to hold torches about her hearse at the time of burial, and made various other funeral provisions. It is specially grievous that the elaborate monument to this distinguished lady disappeared long ago at the time when the S. aisle, owing to post-Reformation neglect and penury, fell into decay. The aisle itself was considerably improved by the executors of Margaret Paston, for she willed that the "said ele be leded and glased and the walles therof heynded (heightened) conveyently and workmanly." (Registers, 1663.)

Ormesby St. Margaret.—This church consists of chancel with modern vestry, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The S. entrance is through a good Norm. doorway, with four orders of mouldings. The rest of the church is Perp. The aisle dates from 1867, when there was a general restoration. The porch

used to have an upper chamber ; there is some good flush-work panelling at the base of the tower ; the battlements are pedimented and have the four Latin Doctors at the angles. The octagonal font has the panels sculptured with quatrefoils, save one which has a shield with a fess for the arms of Clare. On the S. side of the chancel are three graded sedilia under ogee-shaped arches with cinquefoil heads and a similar piscina niche. In the chancel's N. wall is a handsome founder's arch with good work in the spandrels ; a small demi-angel bears the Clare arms. This arched recess probably served for an Easter sepulchre as well as a memorial. A somewhat similar recess was moved from the nave to the E. wall of the new aisle in 1867. There is a brass effigy in the chancel to Sir Robert Clare, 1529. Fragments of a table tomb of Sir Henry Clare, 1622, are under the sepulchral arch. Against the S. wall of the chancel are three brass scrolls, which used to issue from a heart ; these formed part of a brass to Robert Clare, 1446, which was "lost after the restoration." In the parish chest is (or was) the brass demi-effigy of Alice, wife of Robert Clare, 1538. (Registers, 1675.)

Ormesby St. Michael.—The small church consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower. In the chancel are two large lancet lights with trefoil heads ; on the S. side there is a good

early two-light pointed window and a priests' doorway ; these are all of Edward I.'s reign. The lower part of the tower is about the same date ; the panelled battlements and the upper stage, much repaired with brick, are Perp. The nave has windows on the S. side and S. and N. doorways, which are Dec., but there are two late Perp. windows on the N. side. The plain octagonal E.E. font is supported by a central shaft and eight smaller ones of Purbeck marble. Some steps in the sill of the S. window nearest the chancel served as an approach to the rood-loft. The best feature of this structure is the high-pitched 15th cent. roof of the nave with embattled wall-plates. The head of a small lancet light, *c.* 1200, has been built into the S.E. buttress of the chancel. (Registers, 1568.)

Ormesby St. Andrew and Ormesby St. Peter.—These two churches disappeared soon after the Reformation. These parishes, as well as that of Scratby, have been amalgamated for some time with the parish of Ormesby St. Margaret.

Repps.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The round tower is one of the usual pebble-built Norm. examples, but its base and parts of the walls of the church are probably Saxon. The tower had a most graceful octagonal beliry-stage

added, *c.* 1275; there are four two-light windows, divided by a central shaft, whilst the intervening spaces have arcades of a like design. The small archway from the tower into the nave is the original one, so rarely left in these towers. The nave buttresses are late Dec., and to the same period belong both the S. and N. doorways and the nave windows. The chancel is also Dec., but late in the style. The chancel is gained by a high step from the nave, and there are four steps up to the altar pace. Of the rood-screen, there is only the framework left, but the lower panelling has been renewed. The octagonal font, with shields in quatrefoils, is late Dec. The porch of red brick is *c.* 1500. (Registers, 1563.)

Rollesby.—The church of St. George consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of four bays with aisles, N. porch, and W. tower. The circular tower is Norm. as high as the apex of the nave roof; the two upper octagonal stages are early Dec., with four good belfry windows. The nave arcades are of the same 14th cent. period. Over the S. arcade are four small quatrefoil clerestory windows of the 14th cent.; but the two-light clerestory windows of the N. side are later in the same cent. Possibly we have here one of the not infrequent instances of church building being interrupted by the terrible Black Death of 1348–9. The N. and S. door-

ways are also Dec.; the archway of the latter is enriched with cusplings, a most unusual feature for an ordinary parish church. The chancel was rebuilt in the 15th cent.; it is enriched at the angles with pinnacles surmounted by the figures of a talbot or dog. The rood-loft stairs remain to the N. of the chancel arch; right through the stairway there has been a double squint, giving sight to the centre of the high altar. There is another squint at the E. end of the N. aisle. In the S.E. angle of the chancel, obtruding itself close upon the altar, is a most singular walled-off enclosure. The wall facing W. is 4 feet 6 inches in length, whilst that facing N. is only 3 feet 6 inches; in the first of these walls is a plain pointed doorway, just over 5 feet high, with hinge-hooks still remaining; facing the end of the altar is another opening or doorway. Its walls are 6 feet 8 inches high. Could it have been used for any kind of sacristy, or for the preservation of notable relics? Against the N. wall of the chancel is a table-tomb, bearing the singularly ungraceful and clumsily carved effigy of a lady in a ruff and elaborate Elizabethan costume, awkwardly resting on her right elbow. A panel in the centre bears a most quaint epitaph to Rose Claxton, daughter and heir to William Lyster and wife to Francis Claxton, who died in 1601 "in the 23rd year

of her age and in the seventh of her marriage." The chancel was restored in 1875, the nave in 1884, and the tower in 1887. (Registers, 1558.)

Runham.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. Its main features are *c.* 1360, but much of the work was renewed in a drastic restoration of 1855–6. The nave roof was re-thatched after a storm in 1874. On the S. side of the chancel is a square-headed low-side window, divided in the centre by a stone mullion. The tower and porch are of well-advanced 15th cent. work. The porch has a small well-sculptured image niche over the entrance, and the base is panelled in flush-work. The tower is a fine lofty example, with good sound-holes and panelled flush-work both at the base and on the parapet. The octagonal font, so much scraped as to look new, has an awkward book-rest projecting from the bowl on the W. side. (Registers, 1539.)

Scratby.—The church of All Saints has long ago disappeared; the parish was consolidated with its neighbour, Ormesby St. Margaret, in 1548, and the church soon lapsed into ruin.

East Somerton.—The church of St. Mary fell into disuse soon after the Reformation, and has been for a long time a complete ruin. The lower part of the ivy-laden square tower still

remains and a good deal of the walls of the nave, but the chancel has gone. The nave and tower are about 70 feet in length, and the nave is 30 feet wide. There are three large windows on each side, but the tracery has gone. At the E. end of the N. and S. walls are plain pointed piscina niches, showing the site of the two nave altars. The whole of the remains, which are surrounded by a belt of trees, appear to be of the 15th cent. (Registers included in those of Winterton.)

West Somerton.—The church of St. Mary is a small building on the higher ground to the S. of the village; it consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and small circular W. tower. The nave and porch are thatched and the chancel slated. The round Norm. tower is about 18 feet in external diameter. An octagonal stage was added to it in the 14th cent., and this is surmounted by a brick parapet of much later date. The nave dates from c. 1310, to which period belong most of the windows, though the tracery has been renewed. The N. porch and entrance, as well as the blocked-up S. doorway, are of the like date. The chancel is higher than the nave, with large windows, and is good work of the Tudor style late in the 15th cent. There is a small priests' door on the N. of the chancel. It is unusual to find the priests' door and the porch, as well as the chief graveyard

burials on the N. ; but the reason is obvious, for the former manor house lay immediately to the N. of the church, and there probably also stood the old village.

There is a fairly good Perp. chancel screen, which has been carefully repaired. The entrance to the rood-loft stairs is in the N. wall. The well-carved pulpit is also Perp.

The chief feature of the church is the series of wall-paintings, now, alas, greatly decayed, discovered in 1867, when the fabric underwent repair. Between the two windows on the S. side of the nave is the Doom. On the N. side are the Entry into Jerusalem, the Flagellation of our Lord, and the Resurrection. There is also a large figure of St. Christopher on the S. wall in the usual place, namely, opposite the principal entrance. The costume and general treatment of these paintings belong to the reign of Edward III.

The Perp. font is of ordinary octagonal design. (Registers, 1736.)

Stokesby.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The small unbuttressed tower, though it has certain later features, is of E.E. construction; some moulded stones of an earlier Norm. church were used in its building. The windows of nave and chancel are late Dec. ; but there is a three-light S. window in the nave which is late

Perp. The nave is thatched with reeds, which show through the rafters in the interior. The sill of a S. chancel window has been lowered to form three graded sedilia. In the nave are an excellent series of old poppy-head bench-ends with well-carved backs to the seats, *c.* 1500. On the S. door is a particularly fine Dec. central ring; the plate, which bears it, branches out in well-designed foliations of iron-work. The porch is of brick. Over the piscina niche in the chancel is fastened a fragment of the top of the brass effigy of Thomas Gerard, priest, 1506. On the floor are the good brass effigies of Edmund Clere and his wife, 1488. (Registers, 1560.)

Thrigby.—The small church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The tower has an oven and flue.

The nave and tower of the church were restored in 1896. There are four windows to the nave, all with wooden mullions. The best feature of the church is the S. doorway, which has a moulding ornamented with alternate four and five-leaved flowers. It is about the reign of Richard II. The octagonal font has quatrefoils on its panels, and is of the same date as the doorway; the base is new work.

The chancel windows date from 1896, when this part of the church was also restored. In the E. wall to the S. of the altar, about 6 feet

from the ground, is a large incised and painted consecration cross, the roundlet of which is 16 inches in diameter. There is another of these crosses in the N. wall of the chancel. A lowered window sill serves as a sedile. (Registers, 1539.)

Thurne.—The church of St. Edmund consists of a small narrow chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. Both chancel and nave are thatched and are of Dec. date with some alterations and insertions of the next cent. The three-light window on the S. side of the nave nearest the E. is late Perp. The two S. windows of the chancel are of the like period, as well as the corresponding ones on the N. side, but their tracery has been recently renewed. The small unbuttressed W. tower is *c.* 1300, with battlements and alterations in the upper stage of later date. There is no tower arch, but only a pointed doorway into the body of the church. The N. porch, with its side windows, is Dec., and so is the S. doorway.

The sill of the easternmost S. window of the chancel is lowered to serve for sedilia. Beyond it is the niche of a double piscina; it dates *c.* 1310. This, too, seems to be the date of the four-light E. window with plain intersecting tracery, below which a space has been left for a reredos. On each side of this window

are remains of wall-painting, the wall having been divided in spaces imitative of stone ashlar work, each space bearing a six-leaved flower with tendrils, a most effective pattern when perfect. There is a good old roof to the nave with embattled wall plates ; the chancel roof is also in the main original. There is a good holy table of Elizabethan or early Jacobean date ; the altar rails are of the Restoration period. (Registers included in those of Ashby.)

Winterton.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel with N. adjunct, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The nave and chancel underwent considerable restoration in 1873 ; they have good lofty Perp. windows. The interior arrangements before the restoration were most exceptional ; the pulpit and reading-desk, of 17th cent. date, were on the top of the rood-screen.

A remarkable feature is the small E.E. building on the N. side of the chancel. The walls are thick, and it is lighted by four small lancets deeply splayed and having trefoil heads ; it communicates with the church through a small-pointed doorway. It is always termed the vestry, and has doubtless been used for that purpose for many generations ; but a structural vestry of so early a date to an ordinary parish church is unknown. There is

little doubt that it was originally built as an anchorhold for some special recluse.

The church possesses one of the finest porches in all Norfolk, though now mutilated to some extent. It used to have an upper room, the stairs of which still remain; but the roof has been lowered and the floor removed. The S. front is of freestone throughout, and remains at its original height. The entrance doorway, with its spandrels, is handsomely carved; in the hollow of the mouldings are roses, heads, and shields; one shield bears a chevron with a crescent in base. On each side of the doorway is a large canopied image-niche with a panel below; on one of these panels is a crossed spear and reed with hammer and pincers (symbol of the Passion), and on the other a cross and crown of thorns. Above the doorway is a line of black-letter inscription, surmounted by series of incised crowns—*In honore sancte Trinitatis et Omnium Sanctorum*. Above this are two other smaller image-niches, which have flanked one of larger dimensions, a sculpture obscured in post-Reformation days by an ingeniously inserted sundial. The side windows of the porch have good tracery. The W. tower (restored in 1883) is a grand lofty example of dressed flint with quoins and panelling of stone. There are two buttresses at each angle, which are carried up to the

summit. At each set-off of these buttresses, they diminish, a string-course encircles the tower, dividing its height of 125 feet into six stages. The panelling at the base of the tower is surmounted by a broad chequered band of alternate flint and stone. The battlements are handsomely enriched; there are low corner pinnacles, and the centre of the battlements on the S. and W. are ornamented with curious figures.

The octagonal font and chancel screen are new oak fittings.

It is worth while to notice the iron-work of the small lancet window at the E. end of the chancel adjunct, which enables it to open; it is coeval with this E.E. building. (Registers, 1717.)

Yarmouth.—The church of St. Nicholas, a great cruciform building, consists of chancel with wide aisles and chapels, transepts, nave with aisles, S. porch, and central tower and spire. It can make good its claim to be the largest parish church in England, having a area of 23,265 feet, and is capable of seating 3500 people. The extreme length is 236 feet, and the breadth of 112 feet. A Norm. church was built here by Herbert Losinga, Bishop of Norwich (1091–1114) and founder of the cathedral. The whole of his church has disappeared before successive rebuildings,

unless there may possibly be some remains in the core of the piers or first stage of the central tower. The oldest part of the present building is the nave, which is Trans. Norm. of the time of King John. The aisles of this nave were demolished and much wider ones substituted towards the close of the 13th cent., the church being reconsecrated in 1286. The proportions are most singular, and considerably mar the general effect of the interior; the nave has only a width of 24 feet, but each aisle is 43 feet wide. The development of the trade and wealth of the town brought about the establishment within the church of a variety of guild and chantry chapels. In the second quarter of the 13th cent. the transepts and quire aisles were enlarged, and a new structure for the accommodation of the various chapels begun at the W. end. This latter building, to be called the Bachelors' Aisle, as the funds were provided by the young and unmarried men of the town, was projected on a great scale, namely 107 feet by 47 feet. After considerable progress had been made the works were paralysed by the terrible Black Death of 1348-9, and eventually abandoned.

After the Reformation this grand old church was shamefully treated; in 1551 it was stripped of its brasses by order of the corporation, the metal being sent to London to be cast into

standard weights for the town. About ten years later a large number of the best of the grave-stones were sent to Newcastle to be cut into millstones. The E. end of the chancel fell in 1784 and was clumsily rebuilt. At a later date the spire was renewed. During the 19th cent. great sums of money have been expended on the preservation and improvement of this vast edifice, notably by Mr. Hakewell in 1847, by Mr. Seddon in 1862, and by Mr. Pearson in 1883, and the chancel aisles by Mr. Pearson in 1890-1.

Considering its great size, the church has but few details or fittings of interest. Except for a table-tomb of the 14th cent., under a crocketed canopy in the N. aisle, called the "Prior's Tomb," the only old monument of interest is a large one in the N. chapel to Robert Crowmer, bailiff of Yarmouth, 1470-97. When Cromwell divided up the church, as is said, between Episcopalians, Independents, and Presbyterians, the Independents made a doorway through this monument. The bowl of the font, of Purbeck marble, is 13th cent; the marble steps and accessories, in poor taste, date from 1889. At the W. end of the church is a seat made from the base of a whale's skull which was taken off Yarmouth in 1582; it is popularly known as the Devil's Seat, and to rest in it was supposed to be the precursor of

misfortune. An ingeniously arranged barrel reading-desk, supposed to be of late Elizabethan date, should be noted in the N. chapel ; it is so constructed that six shelves of books can be revolved within the level of the reader's eye without being disarranged.

The most striking feature of the new work in the church is the vast and costly pulpit designed in 1884 by the late Canon Venables, encircled by a great variety of sacred statuary. The first sermon preached therefrom was from *Ezra viii. 4* ; and it was unkindly said that there was abundant room for the thirteen companions of the scribe, who, according to Holy Writ, stood by his side when preaching in "the pulpit of wood" erected in Jerusalem. (Registers, 1558.)

THE DEANERY OF HEACHAM

Barwick.—The church of St. Mary has long since disappeared. It was allowed to fall into disuse in Elizabeth's reign. The foundations can still be traced in the grounds of Barwick House, and some gravestones remain in the churchyard.

Bircham, Great.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave of four bays with aisles, large N. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was restored in 1850. The fabric is almost entirely 15th cent. with the exception of the early Dec. tower. The other arcades are lofty and well proportioned. The octagonal font is a plain E.E. example. The old altar-cloth is made from a cope given to the church by Roger le Strange in 1505. (Registers, 1657.)

Bircham Newton.—The small church of All Saints (not St. Mary, as usually stated) consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower; it was restored in 1858. The chancel arch is Norm., and the chancel late E.E. with lancet couplets. There is a 15th cent. effigy of a priest. The lower stage of the tower is also E.E.,

but there were various 15th cent. alterations. (Registers, 1562.)

Bircham Tofts.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of nave and W. tower. The tower underwent repairs in 1895. The chancel seems to have disappeared long ago ; the fabric is 15th cent, but much debased, and windows bricked up. Here are two consecration crosses. (Registers, 1715.)

Brancaster.—The church of St. Mary consists of a small 18th cent. chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and a fine W. tower. The nave was reseated in 1904. The buildings are throughout of the Perp. style, *c.* 1450 ; it was much modernised in 1832-3. The clerestory has a three-light window overlooking the chancel roof. The plain octagonal font has a lofty tabernacled cover in poor condition, both 15th cent. (Registers, 1538.)

Choseley is a small parish between Titchwell and Docking. The rectory was appropriated to Nutley Priory, Bucks, in the 13th cent. The church was abandoned after the Reformation. It was returned as an *ecclesia profanata* in the 17th cent. The ruins were extant in Blomefield's days ; the last remains were pulled down in 1863.

Docking.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and substantial W. tower. The church underwent a

strenuous restoration in 1875; the N. aisle and organ chamber were added at that date. The old fabric is almost entirely Perp. c. 1450, but the chancel has certain Dec. features. There is a good Perp. font with seated Apostles round the bowl, but the sculptures are mutilated. (Registers, 1558.)

Fring.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. Much restoration was achieved in 1897, and the chancel was repaired in 1904. Some curious mural paintings have been recovered, but they were much mutilated; a large St. Christopher remains on the N. wall. The fabric is chiefly 15th cent., but parts are 14th cent. There is a blocked-up low-side window in the usual place. The altar rails are formed of parts of the destroyed rood-screen. (Registers, 1671.)

Heacham.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of five bays with aisles, S. porch, and central tower. It may still be termed a fine building, and is well worth studying; but post-Reformation neglect, clumsy repairing, and injudicious later attempts at restoration have reduced its size and deprived it of many of its attractions. It has lost both its transepts. The present fabric is to a great extent 15th cent., but it has a good late Dec. E. window, and much of the tower, as well as

the clerestory, are also 14th cent. Parts of the old rood-screen are still in position, and under the tower there is a good octagonal font. The windows retain some fragments of 15th cent. glass. Among the brasses is one to John Rolfe, 1594. In the N. aisle is a fine monument of its kind to Robert Redmayne, 1625, once Mayor of Lynn. (Registers, 1558.)

Holme-next-the-Sea.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, and fine W. tower. It was meanly bereft of its aisles in 1778, when the nave was rebuilt. The old work is early Perp.; the church is known to have been rebuilt by Henry Notingham, a judge of assize in the reign of Henry IV. (1399–1413). Fixed to the chancel arch is a brass to his memory, bearing the effigies of himself and his wife, together with these rhyming couplets:—

“Herry Notingham and hys wyffe lyne here
Yat maden thys chirche stepull and quere,
Two vestments and belles they made alsoe
Crist yem save therfor fro wo
Ande to bringe ther saules to blis at heven
Sayth Pater and Ave with mylde Steven.”

A Strickland brass of 1582 is a palimpsest. Against the S. wall of the chancel is an elaborate alabaster monument with the kneeling effigies of Richard Stone, his wife Clemens, and their seven sons and six daughters, 1607. The

font, 1885, is a wonderful amalgam of bad taste. (Registers, 1704.)

Hunstanton.—The fine church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and N. tower at the W. end of the N. aisle. Almost the whole old work of the church is Dec. of the first half of the 14th cent. ; but it was extensively restored, partly rebuilt, and beautifully adorned by Mr. Le Strange, of Hunstanton Hall, the designer and painter of the nave roof of Ely Cathedral. He died in 1862. The porch was restored in 1864. The late Norm. font, assigned by Mr. Bond to the 13th cent., has a bowl of Purbeck marble. The old 15th cent. rood-screen, with the Apostles (omitting Matthias) and St. Paul on the panels, was restored in 1892. Among the monuments should be noted those to Henry Le Strange and his wife, 1485, and the particularly fine canopied and heraldic brass (see plate and description in Macklin's *Brasses of England*, 1907) to Roger Le Strange, "Knight of the Body" to Henry VII., 1506. There is also a brass inscription to Henry Le Strange and his wife, 1485, and many later memorials of that family, including Sir Hamon Le Strange, 1654. There is, too, a brass to Edmund and Agnes Grene, 1490. On the N. side of the chancel is an Easter sepulchre recess, richly canopied. (Registers, 1538.)

Ingoldisthorpe.—The church of St. Michael consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch and W. tower; it was exuberantly restored, on costly lines, in 1857–8. The chancel is Perp, but with Dec. E. window. The nave is partly 13th cent., but the aisle windows are 14th cent. and the clerestory 15th. It is not easy, however, to detect the old and new work. The Norm. font, originally square, has been turned into an octagon. The chancel screen is apparently restored 15th cent. work. The sedilia and roof are new, and so, too, are the carved benches of both nave and chancel, which are copied from original examples in the church. (Registers, 1754.)

Ringstead.—There were formerly two adjacent parishes—Ringstead St. Peter (or Magna) and Ringstead St. Andrew (or Parva); but in 1771 the former of these was pulled down.

The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower with short spire. It is chiefly of 14th cent. or Dec. date. The aisle was added in 1865, and the whole church severely restored. There is a good piscina niche on the S. side of the chancel. A brass of a priest is dated 1482. (Registers, 1538.)

Sedgeford.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave with aisles, N. and S.



SHERNBORNE FONT

porches, transept, and W. round tower ; it was repaired in 1842, and restored on drastic lines in 1882. The circular tower is Norm. with an octagonal 15th cent. belfry stage. The rest of the fabric is of the 14th cent. The font is Norm. (Registers, 1562.)

Shernborne.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul is supposed to have been the second church founded by St. Felix in East Anglia, about A.D. 640. The old church was entirely rebuilt by Sir Arthur Blomfield in 1898. It now consists of chancel, nave, aisle, porch, and W. turret. Most of the old stonework was re-used in the doorways and windows, and in the arcade of the long-disused and walled-up S. aisle. Against the chancel wall is the fine brass of Sir Thomas Shernborne and wife, 1458. The knight affords an excellent example of the armour of the period. This effigy is illustrated and described in Macklin's *Brasses of England* (1907). (Registers, 1747.)

Snettisham.—The fine and notable church of St. Mary was originally of cruciform plan, but the N. transept and chancel were allowed to fall into ruin towards the end of Elizabeth's reign. It now consists of nave with aisles, S. transept, W. porch, and tower with lofty spire. Part of the spire was blown down in 1895, but has been since repaired ; it forms a conspicuous and useful landmark for vessels at sea.

There have been costly and, on the whole, successful restorations in 1856 and again in 1899. Almost the whole of the fabric now extant is late Dec. of the second half of the 14th cent. The large W. window above the finely-groined porch is of striking flowing tracery. The pre-Reformation pulpit has been repainted. There is the brass of a woman, *c.* 1500; also the effigies of John Cremer, 1610, his wife Anne, and their seven children. (Registers, 1682.)

Stanhoe.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave with aisles, and tower at the S.W. angle; it was restored in 1855. The fabric is chiefly Dec.; there is a three-light window of simple interlacing tracery. The base of the tower serves as the S. porch. (Registers, 1558.)

Thornham.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, large S. porch with upper chamber, and W. tower, never finished. The chancel was entirely rebuilt in 1877, after the E.E. style. It is not a little amusing to find that a popular handbook to Norfolk, of recent date, says under Thornham: "The chancel is fine E.E., which has been spoilt by restoration"! The rest of the church is chiefly late Dec. of the second half of the 14th cent. It was much restored in 1877. The lower part of the early 15th cent. rood-screen has sixteen panels, on which are painted

David with eleven of the Old Testament prophets, and Sts. Paul, Barbara, Mary Magdalene, and Lazarus. There are six massive oak benches in the nave ; the pulpit is dated 1631. (Registers, 1716.)

Titchwell.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. With the exception of the round Norm. tower (restored 1890), which is crowned by a short lead-covered timber spire, the fabric is 15th cent. (Registers, 1558.)

THE DEANERY OF HOLT

Bale.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. transept, S. porch, and W. tower. There were considerable repairs to the fabric in 1863-4. The body of the church is Dec., with Perp. insertions; the tower late Dec. There is nothing of particular note, save some old painted glass in the S. windows of the chancel. (Registers, 1538.)

Bayfield, a little to the S. of Blakeney harbour, was formerly a separate parish, but has been for some time united to Glandford. The church of St. Margaret, close to Bayfield Hall, has long been an ivy-smothered ruin. A large cedar tree is flourishing in the centre of the ruins.

Blakeney.—The fine church (St. Nicholas) of this small port stands on an eminence overlooking the sea. It consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of six bays with aisles, N. porch, and W. tower. A drastic and extensive scheme of restoration was carried out in 1883-7 at a great cost, involving the refacing of the tower and outer walls of the body of the church. The



BLAKENEY, N.

chancel is of the first half of the 13th cent., and has a beautiful stone-groined roof, with a chamber over it. The E. window is early Dec. There are three sedilia, an Easter sepulchre, and almeries in the E. wall ; also some old stall-work. The rood-screen remains, with the stairway on the N. The tower, which is 104 feet high, together with the clerestoried nave, aisles, and N. porch, are all of the first half of the 15th cent. The buttresses of the tower bear the arms of the Sees of Thetford and Norwich. A panel of the W. buttress of the S. aisle has the emblems of the Passion. The like emblems are on the bowl of the Perp. font. The nave roof is a fine example of hammer-beam construction. There is a small lofty tower or turret (Perp.) of a unique character at the N.E. angle of the chancel, where, it is said, a beacon light used to be displayed to guide mariners. There are several 15th and 16th cent. brasses ; also a wall-painting of St. Christopher. (Registers, 1538.)

Bodham.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It was thoroughly restored in 1893-4. The general features of the church are late Perp., but the tower is earlier. The plain octagonal font is Dec. (Registers, 1708.)

Briningham.—The church of St. Maurice consists of chancel, nave, and S.W. tower,

the base of which serves as a porch. The plain tower is Dec. On the S. side of the nave is a fine four-light Dec. window with flowing tracery, *c.* 1360. The chancel is Perp. in its windows, but with an earlier priests' doorway and a blocked-up, square, low-side window. There are various old poppy-head benches. The church was restored in 1863, and again in 1896. (Registers, 1709.)

Brinton.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle and transept, S. porch, and W. tower. There was a considerable restoration in 1873. Some indication of Saxon walling is said to remain on the S. side of the nave; there is an E.E. lancet and two buttresses of 13th cent. date; the arcades between nave and N. aisle and transepts are 15th cent. The chancel was shortened, and a square-headed, three-light E. window inserted in pre-Reformation days. A considerable number of early 16th cent. poppy-head bench-ends remain. Over the transept window is a small old image of St. Andrew. (Registers, 1547.)

Briston.—The small church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, and W. turret. There was formerly a round tower, but a faculty was obtained for its removal as unsafe in 1785, when the rest of the fabric was maltreated after a mean fashion. Broadly speaking, the chancel is 14th cent., and the nave a cent.

later. In 1875 a chancel screen was erected and the church restored. (Registers, 1689.)

Burgh Parva.—The church of St. Mary is another of the numerous Norfolk instances of a church in ruins. Most of the Dec. tower and parts of the walls are still standing. It is now annexed to Briston. (Registers, 1594.)

Cley-next-the-Sea.—The grand old church of St. Margaret is a strong proof of the former importance of this now small town and harbour. It consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. There are also transepts and a W. porch in ruins. It is supposed that the completion of the church was interrupted by the Black Death of 1348–9, and that the transepts were never finished. The church was designed on an imposing plan and after an enriched style in the second quarter of the 14th cent., when the coast line of Norfolk was flourishing through trade developments. The present tower was added, and the W. of the nave extended or altered in the Perp. style of the days of Henry VI. A large sum of money has recently (1904–5) been expended on the repairs and restoration. In Bond's great work on *Gothic Architecture in England*, a fine illustration (85) is given of a highly enriched 14th cent. doorway of this church, having an ogee crocketed hood-mould rising into a floreated finial, whilst the inner

side of the doorway has compound cusping. In the later work of the very fine S. porch may be noted, in the spandrels of the doorway, the arms of Richard II. impaling those of Anne of Bohemia ; in the jamb mouldings are the Agnus Dei, the cross keys, and the arms of England, De la Pole, De Warrene, and Erpingham. The font has the panels carved with the Seven



Misericord, Cley

(From Dawson Turner Drawing, 1840)

Sacraments. The well-carved pulpit is dated 1611. Beneath the altar is the old altar slab with the five crosses. There are six old stalls with misericords. Although many have disappeared, there are still several interesting brasses. In the N. aisle is the brass effigy of a priest in cassock and cap with chalice (John Yslington, *c.* 1520). In the S. aisle are the shrouded effigies of John Symondes (1508), his wife Agnes (1512), and their eight children, with scrolls inscribed "Now thus." A palimpsest

brass to Robert Tayllar, 1578, shows on the reverse some canopy work of Flemish design. Another brass has the effigies of a civilian and six sons. In the chamber over the S. porch is a hutch-chest of solid iron-bound oak, 3 inches thick, with two small doors opening in the front ; it is of late 14th cent. date. (Registers, 1538.)

Edgefield.—The old church of Sts. Peter and Paul, with the exception of the octagonal tower and S. porch, was pulled down in 1883, and a new church erected in a more central part of the parish. The old rood-screen, with panel paintings, and a parclose screen dated 1526, with figures of the donors, William Harstong and wife, have been replaced in the new building. (Registers, 1653.)

Field Dalling.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is throughout late Dec. (c. 1370); it has a lowered window-sill for sedilia. To the S. of the lofty Dec. chancel arch are the rood-loft stairs and turret ; a piece of the old rood-screen, richly painted, blocks up the stairway. On the S. side of the nave are three large Perp. windows ; part of the glazing is old painted glass, and small figures of the Apostles are in the upper tracery of all of them. The arcade of the N. aisle, with clerestory above, and all the windows are

Perp. In a window-sill of this aisle (as noted in 1903) is a handsome piece of cresting from the screen, and some other bits of the screen are attached to an old discarded 17th cent. pulpit at the end of the aisle. The octagonal Perp. font is noteworthy. The panels are carved with a St. Andrew cross, three escallops on a shield, the sacred monogram, the word JESUS, a shield of emblems of the Passion, emblems of the Holy Trinity, and the crossed swords of St. Paul; the eighth place is blank. A curious kind of cover is of the year 1662. The tower is an ordinary example of three-staged Perp. work, and the porch is evidently of like date. The seating of the church includes a large number of 15th cent. benches. About 18 feet to the N. of the church are the foundations of a chapel, which doubtless served the purpose of a charnel. (Registers, 1538.)

Glandford.—The church of St. Martin consisted of chancel, nave, N. porch, N. aisle, and W. tower. After being abandoned and left in a ruinous condition for several generations a small portion was roofed in for occasional worship in 1875. In 1900 the whole church was completely and beautifully restored by Sir Alfred Jodrell. (Registers, 1654.)

Gunthorpe.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The church underwent much restoration in

1863 and the tower in 1894. The chancel is good early Dec., the tower late Dec., and the nave and porch Perp. (Registers, 1558.)

Hempstead.—The church of All Saints is a plain, debased building, consisting of nave, S. porch, and a low square brick tower dated 1744. (Registers, 1558.)

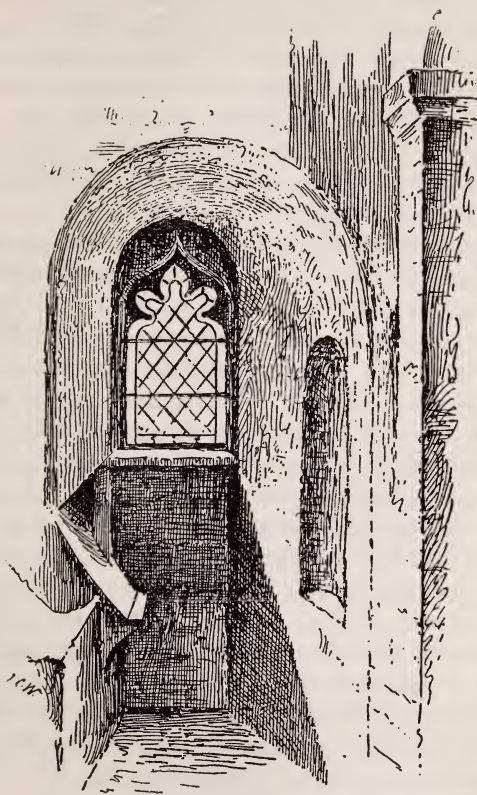
Holt.—The church of St. Andrew of this small market-town consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. A good deal of restoration was done to this building in 1864 and again in 1887; it has a rather poor modernised appearance. The five arcades each side of the nave, with octagon pillars, are Dec.; the chancel also is Dec., except a late Perp. east window. The piscina and double sedilia are Dec. There is a rather uncommon form of piscina at E. end of N. aisle, and also a small one in the jamb of the respond. The S. porch, which has been turned into a vestry, is Perp. The tower, lower than most in Norfolk, is Dec.; it used to be surmounted by a lofty spire. The aisle windows are late Perp., but the N. doorway and some of the buttresses are Dec. There are various distinctive details about the exterior of the chancel, which make us date it with some confidence about 1320. On the N. side is a low-side window. (Registers, 1557.)

Hunworth.—The church of St. Laurence

consists of chancel, nave, S. transept, S. porch, and W. tower; it is chiefly of 17th cent. date. The chancel was rebuilt in 1850, and the rest of the fabric much repaired. On the panels of the porch are the alternate devices of a crowned L and a gridiron, in allusion to the patron saint. (Registers, 1653.)

Kelling.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, N. transept, N. porch, and W. tower. The roofs of nave and N. transept were restored in 1907. The S. transept is in ruins. The fabric is chiefly of 15th cent. date. The Perp. font has the arms of John of Gaunt and the see of Norwich, with various sacred devices on the panels, and a mutilated inscription asking prayers for . . . de Kelling and Beatrice, his wife, the donors of the font. (Registers, 1558.)

Langham.—There were formerly two parishes known as Langham Magna and Langham Parva. The church of the latter (St. Mary) was sadly dilapidated in 1602, and has long since disappeared; its rectory is consolidated with Blakeney and Cockthorpe. The church of Langham Magna, more usually called Langham Bishops, jointly dedicated to Sts. Mary and Andrew, consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, N. and S. porches, and lofty W. tower. The fabric is in the main of the 15th cent. The fine tower has large three-light Perp. belfry windows and



Low-side Window, Melton Constable

sound-holes in the second stage. The font is Norm. and of Purbeck marble. The church was restored in 1868. There is a handsome tablet to Captain Marryat, R.N., the novelist, who lived here for many years; he died in 1848. There is also a noteworthy memorial window, of 1894, designed by Burne-Jones. (Registers, 1695.)

Letheringsett.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and circular W. tower. The round Norman tower has Dec. windows inserted in the belfry. The arcades between the nave and aisles are good E.E. The Purbeck marble font, with the bowl supported by central shaft and eight small columns, is of the same period. The aisle windows of the clerestory are Perp.; the chancel windows are Dec. A S. window-sill is lowered for sedilia. There is a singularly fine modern reredos in alabaster to the memory of Captain Jodrell (1868). The stairway to the rood-loft is on the N. side of the chancel arch. (Registers, 1653.)

Melton Constable.—The small church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, transepts, and low central tower. Blomefield says: "The church is an old building, and contained only one aisle, being a single pile, till Sir Jacob Astley, in 1681, built a neat chapel (S. transept) with a vault under it of brick." It is

built chiefly of Carr stone, and there is a mixture and confusion of architectural periods and styles. The central tower is Norm. The N. transept was erected by Lord Hastings in 1885, when a general drastic restoration took place. There are long series of 17th cent. Astley monuments, the inscriptions on which are set out in detail by Blomefield (ix. 424-5). There is a curious example of a low-side window, with a seat cut out in the wall and a stone book-desk for the altar clerk. (Registers, 1561.)

Morston.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. The fabric is in the main 14th cent., but there are 15th cent. insertions. The clerestory lights on the S. side are small Dec. quatrefoils. The lower portion of the old rood-screen (*c.* 1500) has painted panels of the Evangelists and the Latin Doctors. In the chancel is a brass dated 1596 to Richard Makynge, rector. Brasses to Elizabethan clergy are very rare; this is the only Norfolk example. (Registers, 1548.)

Salthouse.—The large lofty church of St. Nicholas, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower, is known to have been built by Sir Henry Heydon in the beginning of Henry VII.'s reign; it is a good example of advanced Perp. The rood-screen and parcloes at the E. ends of

the aisles were barbarously cut up in the 18th cent. to form a great pew. The panels of the former included paintings of Sts. Andrew, James the Great, James the Less, Matthias, Simon, Matthew, and four others, but the faces had been brutally disfigured. Some parclose panels are powdered with flowers and mitred N's for St. Nicholas. The church was reseated in 1887, when parts of the chancel screen were rearranged; several of the old benches with poppy heads were retained. The bowl of the font has the evangelistic symbols alternating with shields bearing the emblems of the Passion. There is a chalice brass to Robert Fevyr, 1519. (Registers, 1544.)

Saxlingham. — The small church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave, N. and S. transepts, S. porch, and W. tower; it is mainly of 15th cent. style. The church was extravagantly restored at a great cost in 1898. The tower has a chequered parapet. There used to be a marvellous great monument to Mirabel, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Rivet, and first wife of Sir Christopher Heydon; she died in 1593. "Over her," says Blomefield, "rises a pyramid, near the height of the chancel, adorned with many hieroglyphical figures after the manner and style of the Egyptians." Only a fragment now remains. (Registers, 1558.)

Sharrington. — The small church of All

Saints consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower, the lower part of which forms the porch. There are traces of former N. and S. aisles. The chancel was restored in 1880, and the rest of the church in 1908. The fabric is in the main 14th cent., but with later inner walls; some of the old carved benches remain. There are brasses to John Botolff, priest, 1486; to John Sharington, 1498; to Thomas Daubeney, 1527; and to Christopher Daubeney, his wife Philippa, and their five sons and three daughters, 1587. (Registers, 1672.)

Stody.—The cruciform church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, transept, S. porch, and circular W. tower. It underwent considerable restoration in 1908. The round Norm. tower has a 15th cent. belfry and embattled parapet. The chancel is Dec., but the rest of the church late 15th cent. The octagonal Purbeck marble font is E.E., supported on small shafts. (Registers, 1661.)

Swanton Novers.—The church of St. Edmund consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and a western tower which was rebuilt in 1821. The church is of very little interest, for all, save the tower, was rebuilt or severely restored in 1881. The Perp. font bears the evangelistic emblems. Ladbroke's view (c. 1824) shows a N. porch. (Registers, 1668.)

Thornage.—The small church of All Saints

consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. The interior was drastically restored in 1898 and the exterior in 1904; but the fabric was previously much debased, as shown in Ladbroke's view, *c.* 1824. In the tower is an oven for baking the wafers. (Registers, 1561.)

Weyborne.—The parish church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave of two bays, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. A big scheme of restoration was carried out in 1888, which was specially concerned with the aisle. The chancel has two Dec. windows on the S., the sill of the one nearest to the altar being graded in three steps for sedilia. There are no windows on the E. or N. The arcade to the wide N. aisle, with a circular column and responds, is plain early Dec. Over the porch is a chamber from which there is a squint into the church. Two windows on the S. side of the nave are early Perp., inserted when the nave was widened on that side. At the like date the fine W. tower, with panelled battlements, was erected. An Austin priory was founded at Weyborne in the reign of King John, which stood immediately to the N. of the parish church. The W. tower of the conventual church joins on to the N. wall of the chancel. This is not the place for discussing the somewhat intricate questions relative to the priory ruins and the work in the old tower of

the Saxon period (see *Norfolk Archæology*, x. 262-76). At the time of our visit the rank growth of destructive ivy over a good deal of the church was piteous and shameful. The seating of the nave includes a few good old poppy-head benches. (Registers, 1727.)

Wiveton.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. It was rebuilt throughout in the Perp. style of about the middle of the 15th cent. The clerestory has an E. window overlooking the roof of the chancel. There was severe and thoroughly bad restoration in 1872, when the old rood-screen was cut down, and partly re-erected at the W. end for the bell-ringers. There are brasses to George Brigge and his wife, Anne, 1597, with effigies and shields of arms; also a brass inscription of bequests made to the parish by Raulf Grenewey, citizen and alderman of London, 1558, with merchants' mark and arms of the Grocers' Company. Brasses of William Bishop, a priest, 1512, and of a figure in a shroud, 1540, both mentioned in Macklin's *Brasses of England* (1907), appear to have disappeared. Traces of a floral pattern on the N. wall of the clerestory of the nave have been noted. (Registers, 1558.)

THE DEANERY OF INGWORTH

Alby.—The church of St. Ethelbert consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower ; it was restored in 1889, when the old rood-screen was taken down and parts used for a reredos. At one time the church had aisles, and two clerestory windows remain on each side of the nave. It is chiefly of 14th cent. date. (Registers, 1558.)

Aylsham.—The large church (St. Michael) of this old market-town consists of chancel with aisles or chapels, clerestoried nave of six bays with aisles, transepts, S. porch with upper chamber, and W. tower with small spire. The erection of the present church (c. 1380) is attributed to John of Gaunt ; it is a well proportioned building of the late Dec. style, but many of the windows, the porch, and parts of the tower are Perp. The nave arcades, with alternate circular and octagonal pillars (Dec.), are very effective. There is a fine front to the S. porch, with the arms of France and England. There is much of interest in the interior. The sedilia and double piscina are remarkably good,

and there are some remains of old stall work. Of the rood-screen, erected in 1507 at the chief cost of Thomas Wymer, a worsted weaver, and Jean and Agnes, his wives, only the lower part remains in position ; the painted panels bear the Apostles, omitting Sts. John, Matthew, and Philip, and also Moses and Sts. Paul and John Baptist. The pulpit is early Jacobean. The rood-stairway is in good repair. The original tower door with good ironwork is noteworthy. There are remains of painting on the W. (late Perp.) gallery. On the roof of the south transept, which was the Lady Chapel, crowned M's are painted. The fine (late Dec.) font bears the sculptured emblems of the Evangelists, the Crucifixion, and symbols of the Passion ; on the shaft are four shields of arms—John of Gaunt, Morley, Roos, and Erpingham. At a recent restoration of this font I H S was unfortunately substituted for the Erpingham arms. There are brasses to Thomas Wymer in shroud, the donor of the screen, 1507 ; to Richard Howard, 1499, and Cecilia, his wife (he was a citizen and sheriff of Norwich, and built the porch in 1488) ; to Thomas Tyson, rector, 1490 ; and to Robert Farman, and Catherine, his wife, 1479. There is also a somewhat mutilated monument in the chancel to John Jegon, Bishop of Norwich from 1602, who died at Aylsham, March 13, 1617. (Registers, 1653.)

Baconsthorpe.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. porch, and W. tower. It is a fine and fairly well-restored church, chiefly in the Perp. style. The fabric was damaged by the fall of part of the tower in 1739; it was repaired in 1779, and again restored in 1869. There is an Easter sepulchre arch on the N. side of the chancel, which now opens into the present vestry. All the windows of the church are Perp., except one in the S. chapel. There are blocked-up stairs to the rood-loft on the N. side of the chancel aisle. A small Perp. screen, used to form an organ chamber at E. end of N. aisle, formerly belonged to Bessingham church. There are brasses to Alice Heydon, 1479, and to Sir John Heydon, 1550. Also an interesting monument to Sir Christopher Heydon and his wife, dated 1579. (Registers, 1653.)

Banningham.—The church of St. Botolph consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower; it is chiefly in the Perp. style, except the chancel, which is good Dec. The building underwent considerable restoration in 1847. In the chancel are sedilia. The nave roof is richly carved with fourteen figures on the hammer beams. (Registers, 1709.)

Barningham Parva.—The church of St.

Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel and nave and tower have been drastically restored, the former in 1878-9, and the latter in 1896. At the former date the ruined vestry was rebuilt on a larger plan. The windows throughout are Perp. In the nave is a pew erected by Stephen Crosbie in 1640, quaintly carved, and bearing a still quainter inscription. (Registers, 1538.)

Beckham, East and West.—The old churches of E. Beckham (St. Helen), and of W. Beckham (All Saints) were both pulled down in 1890, and a new church built by the high road half-way between the two villages, use being made of a good deal of the old material. (Registers, 1689.)

Belaugh.—The church of St. Peter, situated on the summit of a hill, consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is Dec., but most of the body of the church and the tower advanced Perp. The tower is a good example, with panelled battlements, sound-holes, and a turret staircase in the S.E. angle. The chancel has an exceptionally good angle-piscina niche, and S. window-sill lowered to serve for sedilia. There is a good rood-screen, with the central part of the embattled cresting remaining. The twelve panels bear the Apostles, but Sts.

Paul and John Baptist have been substituted for Sts. Philip and Matthias ; they have been maliciously obliterated ; their faces, according to a contemporary Commonwealth record, "being rubbed out by a godly trooper from Hobbies." The rood-loft doorway remains on the N. side. The font is late Norm.—a round bowl supported on four pillars and a central shaft. In the chancel is a small brass, with chalice and wafer, to John Fielde, rector, 20th July, 1508 ; also a very small dateless brass to William Fielde. In the aisle is a third small brass to William Pawe, rector, 1 September, 1552. (Registers, 1538.)

Blickling.—The church (St. Andrew) which stands on an eminence near the famous Hall, consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. Not a little of the old work was obliterated under an extensive restoration by Mr. Street, R.A., in 1874–6, when the present tower and porch were built. Most of the old work which was suffered to remain is of the Perp. period. The font, which is late Perp., is ornamented round the bowl with lions sejant and oak leaves ; on the shaft are more lions. The old parish chest, with five locks, is late 15th cent. ; it is inscribed "Mayster Adam Hee mad ys Chyste, and Robert Filipis payed yerfor God have marcy on yar Soules." There is a richly decorated piscina in

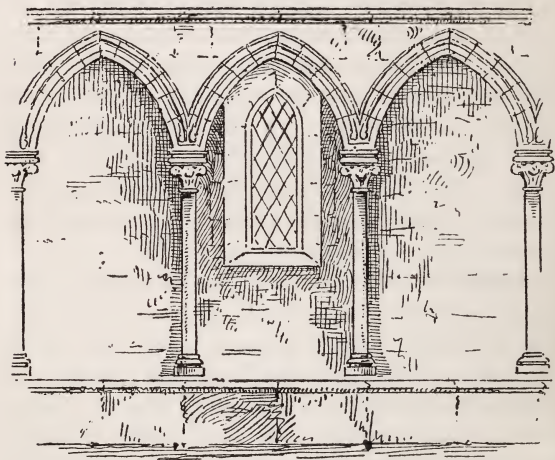
the chancel. There are brasses, with effigies, to a nameless civilian, *c.* 1360; a large one with marginal inscription to Sir Nicholas Dagworth, 1401; to Roger Felthorp, 1454, and his wife Cecilia and their children; to Cecilia, sister to Geoffrey Boleyn, lord of the manor, 1458; to Anne, daughter of William Boleyn, 1479; to Isabel (Boleyn), wife of William Cheyne, 1485; and to Anne, wife of Thomas Asteley, with twins, 1515. The singularly fine modern monument, executed by Mr. Watts, R.A., in 1878, to William Schomberg Robert, eighth Marquis of Lothian, is specially noteworthy. (Registers, 1559.)

Booton.—The church of St. Michael, consisting of chancel, nave, N. porch, and two W. towers, was gradually rebuilt between 1875 and 1900, after an extravagant and tasteless fashion, in supposed imitation of geometric Dec. There are a few brasses of but little interest transferred from the old church. (Registers, 1558.)

Brampton.—The church of St. Peter consists of large chancel, S. vestry, nave, S. porch, and small W. tower. The round Norm. tower has an octagonal Perp. upper stage. The chancel is Dec.; most of the nave Perp. The plain octagonal font is Dec. There are brasses to John Brampton and Thomaseyne and Anne his wives, 1535, and to Edward Brampton and

Joan his wife, 1622. A drawing of 1813 shows beautifully carved, double doors (late Dec.) at the S. entrance. (Registers, 1600.)

Burgh-next-Aylsham.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel with N. chapel, nave,



Part of Arcade S. side Chancel, Burgh

N. porch, and W. tower. The E.E. chancel, restored in 1878, is of exceptional beauty and interest; there is a continuous series of lancet windows arcaded in the interior, and below them arcading above stone seating. A fine E.E. archway opens into the N. chapel. This delicate work is *c.* 1200–20. The nave is practically new, having been restored in 1888,

and again in 1903. The tower is Perp. There is a low-side window in the lower arcading of the chancel, measuring 3 feet 9 inches by 1 foot 9 inches. (Registers, 1563.)

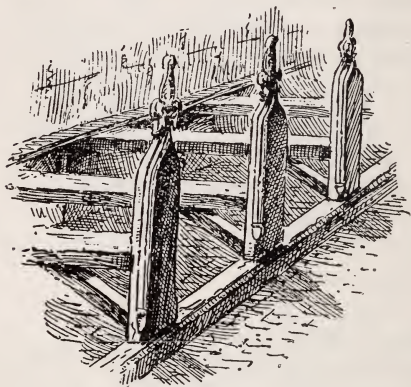
Buxton.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. The tower, vestry, and some other parts were rebuilt from the ground in 1881–2, as stated on a brass under the tower. The S. porch was built in 1875. The windows are all Perp. The arcades of the nave are late Dec., with small quatrefoil clerestory windows above them. Each aisle is prolonged to make chapels to the first bay of the chancel. In the S. wall of chancel are three

level sedilia, with a piscina of good early Dec. design. There is in the same wall a quatrefoil



Master John Schorne, Cawston
Screen

splayed opening of low-side window character, but 6 feet from the ground. The aisle windows are chiefly Perp. The gilded base of the old rood-screen remains, but no figures of saints are now on the panels. The plain octagonal font, with a lofty crocketed cover, is late 14th



Backless Benches, Cawston

cent. The N. door is original and of the like period. (Registers, 1655.)

Calthorpe.—The church of St. Margaret comprises chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is Dec., *c.* 1300; the nave and tower Perp. The Perp. font is elaborately enriched, and somewhat resembles that of Ludham; there are lions round the shaft. The lower part of the old rood-screen has

been removed during recent years (Registers, 1539.)

Cawston.—The church of St. Agnes is a noble building in stone, one of the best early Perp. examples in the county. It consists of chancel, with S. chapel, nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. The whole is c. 1400, but the fine tower is probably somewhat earlier than the rest of the building. It opens into the nave with a large stately arch, the lower part of which is fitted with a substantial 15th cent. gallery, handsomely carved, though mutilated. On the front of this gallery is inscribed :

“ God spede the plow
and send us ale corn enow
our purpose for to mak
at crow of cok of y^e plowlete of Sygate
Be mery and glade
Wat Goodale yis work mad.”

One of the best features of the tower are the elaborate base mouldings. (See illustration in Bond's *Gothic Architecture in England*, p. 403.) The font is octagonal, on a raised base. The rood-screen is of much interest. It retains its doors, on the panels of which are the four Latin Doctors ; on the other panels are the Apostles, Sts. Paul, Agnes, Helena, and Master John

Schorne.¹ The particular glory of the church is the fine double-hammer beam roof, the lower arches of which are carried on timber shafts rising from between the clerestory windows. Along the cornice runs a course of cherubs with outstretched wings; full-length angels rest on the projecting beams. Various of the old bench-ends remain, particularly in the N. aisle, where there are good original examples of backless benches with poppy-head ends. On the S. side of the chancel is the old sacristy. (Registers, 1538.)

Coltishall.—The church of St. John consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, N. porch, and W. tower. The most noteworthy feature of the fabric are the two small circular Saxon windows

¹ Master John Schorne, though never canonised, was a popular *quasi* English saint. He was rector of the Buckinghamshire church of North Marston, and died about 1290. Miracles were reported of him during his lifetime, and afterwards in connection with his remains and with a well that he had blessed. The most popular of his achievements was the alleged conjuring of the devil into a boot, as the story usually runs. His symbol, as represented on church glass, paintings, and carvings, and especially on the panels of East Anglian rood-screens, is a high boot with a small devil at the opening. In reality, the devil is intended to be coming out of the boot in answer to the saintly rector's prayers or medical cunning, and is an allegorical representation of his fame in curing the gout! Bishop Beauchamp caused his relics to be removed, in 1478, to a shrine in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where the offerings are said to have brought in £500 a year. A painting of Schorne appears on the three Norfolk screens of Cawston, Gateley, and Suffield.

just under the eaves in the N. wall of the nave. They are of the same character as those in the like place at the church of Witton ; they are 9 inches in diameter across the opening, and about 2 feet across the splay. Below them is a large circular window with tracery ; this is, however, the stupid modern work of a restorer of 1865. The arcade between the nave and S. aisle is early Dec. In the S. wall of the chancel are three sedilia of equal height ; these and the priests' doorway and a large lancet are *c.* 1260-70. There is no chancel arch ; the old screen had a coved top added at a recent restoration ; the rood-stairs doorway remains on the N. side. The square font is of Trans. Norm. date ; the bowl is of Purbeck marble, supported by central pier and four smaller shafts. The tower is a good example of Perp. work ; it is of four stages and 70 feet high. Round the base and the parapet are chalices in flush-work of flints and freestone, in allusion to the poisoned chalice tradition. The church is dedicated to St. John Evangelist, and not, as usually stated, to St. John Baptist. The spandrels of the handsome W. doorway bear an Agnus Dei and an eagle. (Registers, 1558.)

Colby.—The church of St. Giles consists of chancel, nave, S. porch with upper chamber, and W. tower. There was a N. aisle which was

cleared away early in the 19th cent. The fabric has been much restored and repaired, but is of no special interest. It is chiefly of 15th cent. date. The Perp. font is well carved; the panels bear crowned Virgin and Child, St. Giles, and 'pious benefactors' (?), alternating with the Evangelistic symbols. (Registers, 1552.)

Corpusty.—The small church of St. Peter, chiefly of 15th cent. date, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The general features are almost entirely Perp. There was originally a N. aisle, which was allowed to fall into ruin in the 18th cent. The old rood-screen has been poorly restored. (Registers, 1726.)

Erpingham.—The fine church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. There was a fairly judicious restoration in 1899. The fabric is chiefly late Dec. towards the close of the 14th cent., but the S. aisle and tower are of the first quarter of the 15th cent., and most of the windows are now Perp. At the E. end of the aisle is the Erpingham chantry, where is the large brass of John Erpingham, who died in 1370, but the brass was not executed until 1415. He is supposed to be the father of Sir Thomas Erpingham, so much distinguished at Agincourt (*Henry V.*, Act iv. sc. 1) and in the

French wars. It is almost certain that the tower and aisle were built by Shakespeare's "old Sir Thomas." The fine tower has panelled shields at the base, traceried sound-holes, and on the parapet are crowned M's alternating with letters which make up the word "Erpingham." The S. door is original, with excellent iron-work. Some fifty years ago there was a fine rood-screen with twelve painted panels. There used to be the four Latin Doctors on pinnacles on the tower ; but one fell down during a storm in 1721 and killed a parishioner, when his companions were removed. A headless one now stands on the N. wall of the churchyard. (Registers, 1559.)

Hautbois, Great.—The old church of the Assumption of St. Mary, a mile from the village, is now in ruins. It consisted of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is roofed in and used as a mortuary chapel, but most of the walls of the nave and porch and of the circular tower are still standing, though matted with ivy. It was deserted in favour of the new church of Holy Trinity in 1864. The old fabric shows work of both Norm. and E.E. The presence, too, of Roman tiles indicates that there may be pre-Norm. portions. The best feature of the old church was the exceptionally fine Norm. font, which has been moved to the new church ; it is square and ornamented with

interlaced work. Here was a shrine of much local repute for pilgrimage, known as "St. Tebbalds of Hobbies." (Registers, 1563.)

Hautbois, Little is one of the several small decayed parishes of Norfolk ; it is consolidated with Lammas. The church of St. Mary was in use up to the Reformation ; soon afterwards it fell into ruin. It stood on the roadside to the left after passing Mayton bridge from Frettenham. The foundations can still be traced.

Hevingham is a widely-scattered village between Norwich and Cromer. The large church of St. Botolph consists of chancel, nave, S. transept, S. porch with chamber above, and W. tower. The fabric was originally cruciform ; it is not known when the N. transept disappeared. It stands on a knoll above the road and is nearly a mile from the village. It was disastrously restored in 1881, but preserves various features of 14th and 15th cent. date. The font is hexagonal and enriched with sculptured figures under floriated arcades ; it is probably of early 14th cent. date, and should be compared with Bakewell font, Derbyshire. It was, alas, "thoroughly restored" in 1881. The chestnut tree in front of the porch, which has a girth of 19 feet, is known to have been planted in 1610. (Registers, 1654.)

Heydon.—The fine church of Sts. Peter and

Paul consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and a lofty W. tower. The nave, chancel, and S. aisle underwent severe restoration in 1894-5. The fabric is in the main of the Perp. period. On the N. side of the chancel is a modern chapel (used for the burial of the Bulwers), built on the site of an old sacristy. The arcades of the nave are Dec.; between each of the three-light Perp. clerestory windows, four on each side, are large quatrefoils, all blocked up except those at the E. end (for extra light on the rood), and these were doubtless the clerestory windows of the 14th cent. The S. porch has a richly groined roof, with chamber above. The rood-screen, erected by John Dynne in 1480, is now in poor condition. There are traces of the former parclose at the E. ends of the aisles. The circular font is E.E. The chancel has a lowered sill for sedilia. (Registers, 1538.)

Ingworth.—The small church of St. Laurence consists of chancel, nave, S. porch with upper chamber, and remains of a round Norm. tower which fell in 1822. The chancel and N. side of the nave are 13th cent., whilst the porch and S. side are 15th cent. The font is Perp., and is well carved. There is an hour-glass stand. The base of the old rood-screen remains, but spoilt with paint. This church was in a most scandalous state of filth and gross neglect (the

present writer saw it in 1874) until its restoration in 1895. (Registers, 1558.)

Irmingland.—The ancient church of St. Andrew of this parish long ago disappeared. The living is consolidated with that of Heydon. A return of 1602 reports:—"Irmingland: The church there whollie ruynated and profaned long since."

Itteringham.—The small church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower; it is chiefly of the Perp. period. The fabric underwent restoration in 1859. There are brasses to Margaret Lomnor, 1504, and to William Lomnor, 1481. The plain font is hexagonal. At the N.E. end of the nave are the ruins of an old chapel. (Registers, 1560.)

Lammas.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The porch was rebuilt in 1878, and in 1887 the whole was vigorously restored. The chancel was rebuilt from the foundation at the latter date. Very little of interest remains; the former thatch has given way to Broseley tiles. (Registers, 1538.)

Mannington is another of Norfolk's ruined parish churches; it is consolidated with Itteringham. The ruins stand in the gardens of Mannington Hall, overwhelmed with ivy. In the churchyard are several early sepulchral slabs, and beside them a row of old stone domestic mortars, placed there under the fond idea that

they are all holy water stoups! Up to 1736 there was service here once a month.

Marsham.—The church of All Saints is chiefly of the Perp. period. It consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and a W. tower. It has been very badly restored. The old rood-screen has panels painted with the Apostles, but several cannot now be recognised; an almost illegible inscription names John and Margaret Norton as the donors. There are some good features in the hammer-beam roof of the nave. The Perp. font has the Seven Sacraments sculptured on the panels of the bowl; the eighth panel has a shield of the Passion. The angles of the tower at one time carried statues of the four Latin Doctors. (Registers, 1538.)

Oulton.—The small church of St. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It underwent considerable restoration in 1898-9. There were formerly two transept chapels in the nave. Most of the features of the church are 15th cent. Two small brasses remain, to John Pykton, 1508, and to Sysilie Pykton, 1519. (Registers, 1706.)

Oxnead.—The secluded church of St. Michael, encircled by trees, consists of chancel and nave under a single roof, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. It stands close to the stately Oxnead Hall, built by Sir Clement Paston, when the family left Paston in the

reign of Elizabeth ; but the greater part is now pulled down, though there are some fine remnants of brickwork with stone mullioned windows. There have been some foolish modern windows inserted in the church in imitation of 13th and 14th cent. work ; but there are a few quaint E.E. remains, such as buttresses and the S. doorway. It is obvious, however, that the church was liberally restored and altered with brick late in the 16th cent. when the new Hall was building ; this is specially to be noticed in the chancel, N. porch, and tower. The S. porch is of the time of Queen Anne. There are a variety of highly interesting 17th cent. Paston monuments and other details, of which the present writer took full transcripts and notes in 1902, when the church was in a grievously neglected state ; but space prevents their use on these pages. It must suffice just to mention the monument and effigy of that man "of great stomach and courage," Sir Clement Paston, who was actually on excellent terms successively with Henry VIII., Protector Somerset, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth. He died in 1599. From a most quaint epitaph only two lines can be quoted :

"A pere of France, in spight of all his betters,
He tooke in fight, and brought him home in fetters."

By his will he ordered the steeple of the church to be built higher. (Registers, 1573.)

Saxthorpe.—The church of St. Andrew is a large building consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. It was far too completely restored in 1892; it is of 15th cent. date, being built by the lord of the manor and his tenants in 1482. The old rood-screen had "painted and gilt mouldings and diapered panels;" it still exists, but in a much spoilt condition. Two old poppy-head bench-ends bear the letter P.; Peter Page was vicar from 1482 to 1536. A stone to his memory is near the font. (Registers, 1656.)

Scottow.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and a lofty W. tower 88 feet high. The E.E. font of Purbeck marble has been restored. There is a room over the S. porch. At the foot of the staircase leading to this chamber is a recess, which is claimed to be an oven used for baking the wafers. (Registers, 1558.)

Skeyton.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and low W. tower. It has a curious admixture of different periods. Thus on the S. side a blocked-up E.E. window has been interfered with by a Perp. porch, whilst the entrance doorway is undoubtedly Dec. of the 14th cent. The S. windows of both nave and chancel are Perp., the latter having embattled transoms. There is a projection

on this side for the rood-loft stairs. The W. windows are also Perp., but the N. doorway is Dec. The unbuttressed tower has E.E. lancets in the basement. The S. door is original, with good ring-plates. The church was widened on the N. in the 15th cent., so that the tower is not in the centre. There is a lowered sill for sedilia use on the S. side of the chancel. (Registers, 1706.)

Stratton Strawless.—The church of St. Margaret, built of stone, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and a W. tower, known to have been rebuilt in 1422. The church is chiefly noteworthy for the memorials of the Marshams, who held the chief property in the parish from the days of Henry III. until quite recent times. A cross-legged effigy in mail is supposed to be Sir Ralph Marsham, who died in 1250. A remarkable and much later monument represents the effigy of Thomas Marsham, who died in 1638, in a shroud, recumbent on a black marble table-tomb, with two angels sounding trumpets above. The easternmost window on the N. side was erected *c.* 1475, in accordance with the elaborate testamentary instructions of John Marsham, but it has long ago disappeared. There are a few fragments of old heraldic glass in other windows of the chancel. (Registers, 1562.)

Swanton Abbot.—The church of St. Michael, on high ground above the village, consists of

chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. All the windows of chancel and nave are 15th cent., and so is the octagonal font, with quatrefoils on the panels. There are interesting remains of a rood-screen after the fashion of the one at Worstead; it is now (1910) under repair. The stairs to the rood-loft are in the N. wall. There is some old tracery on the pulpit, and two 15th cent. bench-ends. A fine brass to a priest in eucharistic vestments commemorates Stephen Multon, who died on 18th June 1477. (Registers, 1538.)

Thwaite.—All Saints church is a small building, comprising chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and a round W. tower of Norman date. The church was thoroughly restored in 1890. The roof of the nave was much damaged in the gale of March 1895, and renewed in the following year. The good rood-screen and loft have disappeared. At the E. end of the aisle (chapel of St. John Baptist) is a brass to John Puttock and Alice, his wife; he built this chapel, and was here buried in 1442. (Registers, 1562.)

Tuttington.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. porch with upper room, and round W. tower. With the exception of the Norm. circular tower, the church is of Perp. date, having been rebuilt about 1450. The fabric has been most severely

restored, especially the chancel, in 1904. There are many curiously-carved old bench-ends. The oak pulpit bears the date 1635. (Registers, 1544.)

Wolterton.—The church of St. Margaret has long been a ruin; only the circular tower now remains. It stands in the park of Wolterton Hall (Earl of Orford), and is hidden by hollies. Wolterton was consolidated with Wickmere in 1737, about which time this highly interesting parish church was suffered to go to complete decay. To his infinite shame, the second Earl of Orford pulled up the old tombstones and sold them in Norwich. (Registers, 1560.)

Wickmere.—The large church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and a round W. tower. There was much restoration in 1901; most of the old work is 15th cent. There is an old chancel screen, much renewed, and rood-stairs. The octagonal Perp. font has alternate shields and roses. There are various good poppy-head and other old bench-ends. The sedilia have several coats-of-arms in the stonework, including Hengham. Thomas de Hengham was rector here from 1377 to 1388. A brass plate in the N. aisle is to the memory of John and Agnes Greneway, and their son Richard, 1494. A brass in the chancel commemorates Thomas Bonett, rector here from 1455 to 1471. (Registers, 1559.)

THE DEANERY OF REPPS

Aldborough.—The church of St. Mary, of the usual flint construction, is chiefly early Perp., but has some Dec. work remaining. It consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, and S. porch. Much restoration was done in 1849, when a large painting of St. Christopher was brought to light over the N. door. The rood-stairs remain. There are brass effigies of a man in late plate armour, and of a civilian in long furred gown; also to Anne Herward, 1485, and to Richard Randes, 1493. Other earlier brasses to the Herwards were "lost" in 1849. (Registers, 1539.)

Antingham.—In the churchyard of Antingham there are two churches, dedicated respectively to St. Mary and St. Margaret. According to a curious local tradition, they were built by two sisters, after whom they were named. Mary remained of a virtuous disposition to the time of her death, but Margaret fell into evil ways. In consequence of this the church of St. Mary is in good repair and regularly used, whilst that of St. Margaret is ruinous and deserted. The story is,

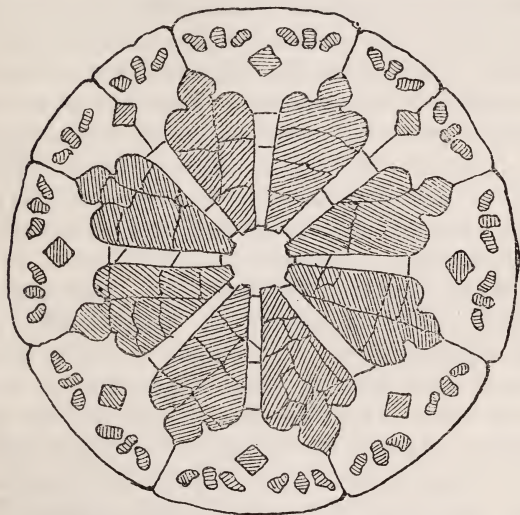
however, wholly impossible, as there is a difference of some centuries in the age of the respective fabrics.

The most perfect part remaining of the small church of St. Margaret's is the Perp. W. tower. It is badly fissured on the N. side. A good deal of the N. wall and parts of the S. wall of the nave remain, but they are overhung by ivy, and the area is given over to nettles and briars. The entrance on the S. side was through a doorway of Norm. date.

St. Mary's stands about 90 feet to the N. of the one in ruins, and is of larger size. It consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The oldest feature is the octagonal font of the time of Henry III. It is of Purbeck marble; each face has two simple arcades; the base is formed of a central shaft, surrounded by eight of much smaller dimensions. The windows and doorways of both nave and chancel are Dec. There is an exterior projection for the rood-loft stairs on the S. side. The tower is of the same date as the rest of the church, save that the upper stage has been renewed in the 15th cent. This church was restored in 1865, and again in 1900. (Registers, 1679.)

Aylmerton.—The church of St. John Baptist consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and round tower. The tower is Norm.; work of the 13th, 14th, and 15th cents. can be noticed

in the rest of the church. On the S. side of the chancel are two sedilia and a piscina niche, with elaborate crocketed ogee canopies of late Dec. period. There is a chamber over the porch. The fabric was far too severely restored



Pavement Cross, Barningham Norwood

in 1864 and 1876. There is a 15th cent. rood-screen. On the N. side is a ruined chapel. (Registers, 1696.)

Barningham Norwood (or North Barningham).—The church of St. Peter retains many features of the Dec. date. It consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. To the

E. of the font, a most curious circular cross of freestone, 56 inches in diameter, with eight radiating limbs, and having the interstices filled up with brickwork, is let into the pavement. Antiquaries differ much about it; perhaps it was only an ingenious ornamental device of the craftsmen who carved the plain octagonal Dec. font. Another possible suggestion is that it was a mark for the procession. There is a brass to Henry and Anne Palgrave, 1516, and a large monument to Sir Austin Palgrave, 1639. The church was much damaged by a storm in 1714, and remained in a sorry state until a restoration of 1893. (Registers, 1539.)

Barningham Winter (or Barningham Town).—The church of St. Peter stands in Barningham Park. The nave, S. porch, and tower have been in ruins since early in the 17th cent. Only the Dec. chancel is kept in repair. Against the N. wall is the brass effigy of a man in armour, *c.* 1410. A consecration cross was uncovered in the S. wall of the chancel a few years ago, but was barbarously re-whitewashed. (Registers, 1703.)

Bessingham.—The church of St. Mary, after a long period of sorry dilapidation, was restored in 1869. It consists of chancel, nave, porch, and circular tower. It is chiefly of the Perp. style, but the Norm. round tower was given double lancet windows towards the end

of the 13th cent. The pulpit is well carved, c. 1500. (Registers, 1538.)

Beeston-by-the-Sea (or Beeston Regis).—The church of All Saints, chiefly of Dec. style, consists of chancel, nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. It was far too severely restored in 1867, when the rood-screen, with painted panels of the Apostles, was cleared away; portions of it are now at the back of the altar. The nave has a fine roof. Good sedilia in the chancel. (Registers, 1743.)

Cromer.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul is an exceptionally fine building of 15th cent. date throughout. In the time of Henry IV. (1399–1413) the incursions of the sea destroyed the town of Shipden, of which parish Cromer was a hamlet. Cromer then began to grow in importance, and one of the results was the erection of this noble fabric. It consists of chancel with side chapels, clerestoried nave with aisles, of five bays, N. and S. porches, and lofty W. tower. The whole is of dressed flint and freestone. The tower attains to the height of 160 feet, and is one of the best examples of flint and stone work in E. Anglia. It has tall double bell-chamber windows; the battlements are ornamented with fleur-de-lis, and there were crocketed pinnacles at the angles. The buttresses are richly worked, and the panelling round the whole church is beautifully finished.

After the Reformation the chancel fell into disuse, and gradually became a ruin. In 1681 the holder of the great tithes blew up with gunpowder what was left of the chancel to save himself from liability for repairs. The chancel, with its side chapels, was rebuilt in 1887-9 on the old foundation. The rest of the church was in a sad state of repair up to 1863, when an extensive and costly restoration was begun.

The fine lofty arcades on each side of the nave consist of six arches, supported on slender piers, and above them are ranges of large clerestory windows. The windows of the aisles are of considerable dimensions; and the effect must have been grand when all the windows were filled with painted glass.

The W. gallery under the tower has been cleared away, although a doorway shows that it was part of the original design. The handsome modern font is a copy of the one at Yaxham.

The W. entrance under the tower is remarkably fine. Both porches have upper rooms; that on the N. is used as a two-storied vestry. The side screens at the end of the aisles, separating them from the choir chapels, both communicated with the rood-loft of the central screen. There are rood-loft stairs in both N. & S. walls. (Registers, 1689.)

Felbrigg.—The church of St. Margaret, picturesquely situated in the fine park of Felbrigg



CROMER, S.

Hall, consists of chancel, nave, N. and S. porches, and W. tower ; it is of the Perp. period. This small building is notable for its brasses. In the chancel are those to Simon Felbrigg and his wife Alice, 1351 ; to Roger Felbrigg and his wife Elizabeth, 1380 ; to Thomas, third son of Sir Edmond Windham, 1599 ; and to Jane, wife of John Pope, and afterwards of Humphrey Coningsby, 1608. The famous brass in the nave is that to Sir Simon de Felbrygge, 1416, one of the finest in all England. He was standard-bearer to Richard II., and his wife Margaret, a native of Bohemia, was a lady-in-waiting (*domicella*) to Richard's queen, Anne, with whom she came to England. Sir Simon supports within his right arm a small standard with the arms borne by Richard II. His wife bears the fetterlock badge. This is one of the five old brasses now extant to Knights of the Garter. Sir Simon (*ob.* 1645) had this brass placed here during his lifetime. He was not buried at Felbrigg, but by the side of a second wife at the old Dominican church at Norwich, now known as St. Andrew's Hall. The Felbrigg arms appear in the spandrels of the W. doorway and on the S. buttresses of the church. The particularly fine bust by Nollekens, of William Windham, the statesman (*b.* 1750, *d.* 1810), is also worth noticing. There are the remains of an early vestry or

sacristy on the N. side of the chancel, and good sedilia on the S. side. (Registers, 1700.)

Gimingham.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is in the main Dec., as is shown by the S. and E. windows and the buttresses. The only architectural features of note in the fabric are the jamb-shafts of the inner splays of two S. chancel windows, with small capitals of natural foliage; their date is *c.* 1310. This work has been imitated in a new big lancet window in the N. wall of the nave near the W. end. The four other nave windows are late Perp. The S. porch, of the same date, has some good panelling round the parapet. There is an upper room to the porch gained by a stairway from the church. Over the entrance is a window of three lights, but the centre one originally served for an image niche. The Perp. octagonal font has tracery both on the bowl and base. Brass to Browning family, 1632. The embattled W. tower is an ordinary Perp. example of the towers of this district; there are the two tiny canopied niches high up on the N.W. buttress, but these are probably not in their original place, as this buttress has been considerably patched. (Registers, 1558.)

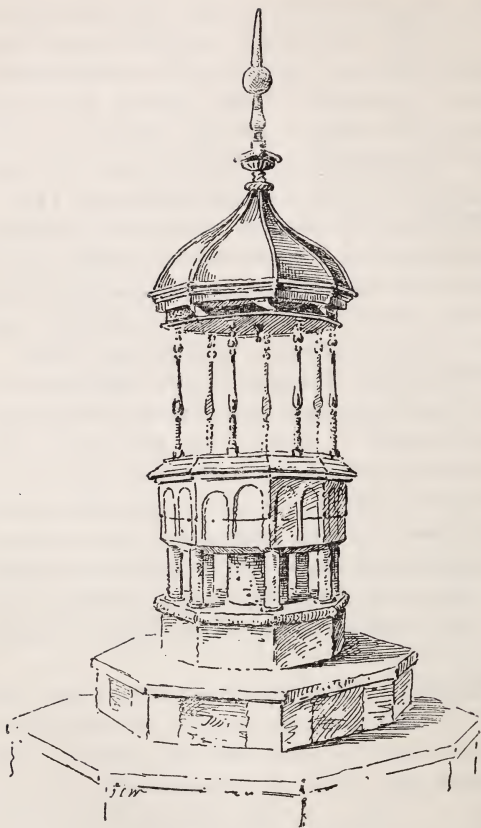
Gresham.—The church (All Saints) is chiefly of Dec. date; it consists of chancel, nave, good S. porch, and W. circular Norm. tower, with

later octagonal belfry. The 15th cent. font is one of those interesting examples which bears representation of the Seven Sacraments on the panels. The body of the church was badly restored in 1856, and the tower in 1886. Kelly's *Directory* (1904) tells us that the registers begin in 1500, but the real date is 1560.

Gunton.—The present church of St. Andrew was erected on the old site in 1769 by Sir William Harbord. It is a small, pseudo-classical building of white brick, with a portico supported by six columns. (Registers, 1723.)

Hanworth.—The church of St. Bartholomew, of 14th and 15th cent. dates, consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, N. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was restored in 1860, and the rest of the fabric in 1895. At the latter date the old stone *mensa* of the high altar was replaced. Though there is some Dec. work in the chancel, the style is in the main Perp., of which there is a good example in the W. window. (Registers, 1721.)

Knapton.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul, on high ground near the sea, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower; it was restored by Scott, at considerable cost, in 1882-3. Most of the fabric is Dec. of the 14th cent., including the unbattered tower of three stages, with its four-light W. windows, the E. & N. windows of chancel, and the grace-



Font and Cover, Knapton

ful porch, with its triple niche over the entrance. The mouldings of the nave windows are Dec., but they have been filled at a later date with Perp. tracery. The two large S. windows of the chancel and the little porch are late Perp. In the S. wall of the chancel is a good Dec. piscina niche, with double quatrefoils in the tracery; in the N. wall is a large Perp. recess for the Easter sepulchre. There is a founder's recess in the S. wall of the nave near the E. end. At the W. end are several sepulchral slabs of 13th cent. date. The font stands on three high steps; the large octagonal bowl is Purbeck marble, supported on a central shaft and eight smaller ones. The font cover, dated 1704, bears the Greek palindromical inscription, which reads the same either way:—

ΝΙΨΟΝ ΑΝΟΜΗΜΑ ΜΗ ΜΟΝΑΝ ΟΨΙΝ

(“*Wash my sins and not my face only.*”)

There is a lofty Perp. rood-screen, with stairs on the N. side; the gates are Jacobean. A good Jacobean altar table now stands at the W. end of the nave. But the special glory of this church remains to be mentioned. Either for scientific construction or for the marvellous beauty of colouring and design, this is the best late Perp. roof to be found throughout England. It is of double hammer-beam construction, and was the gift to the church of John Smithe in

1503. It is graced with three tiers of angels with expanded wings. In an account of Norfolk church rambles, published in the *Church Times* in August 1902, the present writer ventured to say of this inspiring work that the angels seemed ready to bear the roof away. See Brandon's *Open Timber Roofs*, p. 77. (Registers, 1687.)

Matlask.—The church of St. Peter consists of nave, S. aisle, N. and S. porches, and round W. tower. The chancel fell in 1726, and has not been rebuilt. The body of the church, (15th cent.) was restored in 1878. The circular Norm. tower has a later octagonal embattled belfry; it was restored in 1903. There are some good poppy-head bench-ends. (Registers, 1558.)

Metton.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower; the chancel and tower are Dec., and the nave Perp. The peculiarity of the fabric is the passage through the base of the tower, as at Wrotham, Kent, Fowey, Cornwall, and two or three other instances. The sedilia and piscina on the S. side of the chancel have recently been opened out during a partial restoration. There is a brass to Robert Doughty and Margaret, his wife, 1493. (Registers, 1738.)

Mundesley.—The church of All Saints, situated on a commanding cliff, was originally a fine building, with a large chancel, nave, and

W. tower ; but it was allowed to remain in a ruinous condition for over a century. In 1904 the nave and parts of the chancel were restored, and an organ chamber built on the N. side ; the porch and vestry were also rebuilt. During the excavations, fragments of the old 15th cent. chancel arch were discovered, and this has been rebuilt, and a rood-loft erected. The old chancel was of three bays, and there was a recess for sedilia in the usual place, and a priests' door on the N. side. The present windows of the nave and chancel have been constructed partly from the original materials. Norm. mouldings, and tower arch of the same period, were also discovered. About 10 feet from the ground, near the buttress next the W. end in the N. wall, is a small squint kind of lancet, with a recess below belonging to the old building ; this possibly once communicated with an ankerhold. (Registers, 1724.)

Overstrand. — The old parish church of Overstrand was swallowed up by the sea so long ago as the reign of Richard II., when a new church, dedicated to St. Martin, was erected farther inland. This church, of which the chancel had been long in ruins, was, by an unhappy error in judgment, finally deserted in 1867, and a new church, termed Christ Church, of poor appearance, with a W. gable bellcote, erected in its place a few yards S. of its predecessor.

The old church of St. Martin, which even now has many substantial portions, consisted of large chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. All its remaining characteristics denote a building *c.* 1400. The W. tower, with its walls of large white dressed flints and freestone quoins, is a good example of Norfolk work. It has angular buttresses and a good panelled parapet; it is not much damaged, but the ivy is trying it sorely. The octagonal base of the old font remains under the tower. Against the N. wall is a fragment of an Elizabethan mural slab to Mary Baynes, 1593. At a distance of 25 feet from the W. end this nave has at some time been built across, when the rest of the church was left desolate; beyond this partition wall are two more bays of the nave, and beyond that a large chancel of two bays, with a priests' door on the N. Although the arch of the E. window is broken away, there is some very good panelled flint-work below the sill. There has been an exceptional arrangement for entering the rood-loft on the N. side. There are doorways into the rood-loft staircase from both the chancel and the nave. On the floor of the old church are several large slabs bearing the matrices of brasses. Within this ruined chancel was buried Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, the African Slavery Abolitionist, who died in 1845. (Registers, 1558.)

Plumstead-by-Holt.—The small church of St. Michael consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. It was far too “thoroughly restored” in 1873, and is of no special interest. (Registers, 1556.)

North Repps.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with N. and S. aisles, porch, and W. tower. It is throughout of late 15th cent. style, save that there are two small built-up lancet windows on the S. side of the chancel of early 13th cent. date, whilst a few fragments of chevron moulding show that there was a church here in Norm. days.

The tower has pedimented battlements and crocketed pinnacles at each angle. The sacred monogram alternates with a crowned M on the face of the battlements. Over the W. doorway of the tower is a line of IHC's and M's, all crowned.

There are remains of the rood-loft stairs on the N. side. The 15th cent. chancel screen, which has been recovered from a barn, has been inappropriately placed under the tower arch; the upper part has been renewed and ornamented with shields of arms and monograms. The twelve dedication crosses painted on stucco on the exterior have been ignorantly destroyed. (Registers, 1558.)

South Repps.—The church of St. James now consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and a lofty

W. tower. Against the N. wall is a tablet thus inscribed :—"The old church taken down and this erected in the year of our Lord 1791. Robert Ellis and John Baker, churchwardens." There is enough left of the four built-up arcades on each side to show that they were of Dec. date. The three windows on the S. side are of that period, and were evidently reinserted when the aisle was removed. There is only one small window to the N. of the nave. The chancel, which has three good three-light windows on each side and a five-light E. window, is of Perp. date. There are three sedilia with crocketed canopies, and a piscina niche beyond in the S. wall, but they are a good deal mutilated. There is a low-side window in the usual place on the S. side of the chancel.

The noble 15th cent. tower is 130 feet high. There are two buttresses at each angle which reach to the embattled and panelled parapet. There is a beautiful base course of freestone, on which large escallop shells (for St. James) are carved in relief in a flowing pattern. There is a particularly fine W. entrance. During a restoration of 1894, the gallery under the tower, which did not interfere with the large W. window, was taken down, although it was part of the original design, as is shown by a doorway opening on to that level. The octagonal font has a quatrefoil on each face, and is

of 14th cent. date. The chancel screen is of fairly good tracery of 15th cent. date. In the base are eight panels on each side, which are painted alternately red and green ; they are all powdered with gilded crowned M's. (Registers, 1558.)

Roughton.—The church of St. Mary is a conspicuous object on high ground. It consists of chancel, nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and a W. round tower. It was restored in 1864. The base of the round tower is probably pre-Conquest. The chancel is of Dec. date, and the nave aisles and porches are chiefly Perp. The octagonal font is late Perp. Traces of a ruined adjunct on N. side of chancel. (Registers, 1562.)

Runton.—The church of the Holy Trinity consists of chancel, nave, N. and S. aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. It is chiefly of Dec. date. Several of the windows have good intersecting tracery. The large octagonal font, on central base and eight semi-detached shafts, is Perp. Rood-loft doorways on each side. Parts of the tower, the basement of which has been groined, are E.E. There are two large Perp. windows on the S. side of the chancel. Several of the old poppy-head bench-ends remain. In the S. wall of the chancel are a well-carved sedilia of two seats, and a piscina in one group, late Dec. ; within the piscina niche is a recess for the cruets. (Registers, 1743.)

Sheringham, Upper.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and lofty W. tower ; it is of 15th cent. date. A striking feature incident to the architecture is that the clerestory windows are alternately pointed and circular quatrefoils. The most noteworthy feature of the interior is the rood-screen, with some portions of a plain rood-loft. The loft is supported in front by two wooden pillars with quaintly carved spandrels. At the W. end of the nave is a painted beam, where the font cover used to be suspended. The 15th cent. font has (or used to have in the writer's recollection) considerable traces of colour. Near the font is this inscription : " Here lyeth the body of Thomas Heath, sonn of Mr. Wilyam Heath, of Norwich, wool chapman, who was Robed and murderid the 4th day of February, 1635." There is a slab inscribed to Walter Marlow, canon of Notley, and sometime rector, 1457. Also brasses to John Hook, 1513, and to Magdalene his wife, and to Thomas Borges and wife, 1540. (Registers, 1670.)

Sidestrand.—The chancel, nave, and porch of the present church were moved to their present position with great care and ingenuity in 1881, owing to the encroachment of the sea. The old church stood 450 yards to the N., and the round W. tower still remains only a few yards from the sandy cliff. An inscription on

the N. wall of the present edifice states that "This ancient church, dedicated to St. Michael, owing to the insecurity of the cliff, was removed to this site in 1881."

It was taken down stone by stone and re-erected with much cunning, even the old piscina niches taking their former places. All the work that was removed is of 15th cent. date. The plain but massive octagonal font is of the same period.

A wise discretion was exercised, when the removal took place, in not attempting to shift the round tower ; which had, however, been rebuilt at a comparatively modern date. A new one of like dimensions, but with an octagonal summit, was placed at the W. end of the removed fabric. The W. window of each aisle and the E. window of the chancel are new. (Registers, 1558.)

Suffield.—The church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower ; it was too "thoroughly restored" in 1879. The chief feature of the church is the handsome rood-screen, which underwent, however, considerable renewal in 1880. The chancel is of 13th and 14th cent. date ; the body of the church and the tower are mainly Perp. (Registers, 1558.)

Sustead.—The small church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and round tower ; it was restored in 1898. The

circular Norm. tower has 14th cent. belfry windows. The chancel is Dec., with good S. windows, but square-headed Perp. E. window. The nave is Perp. ; there is a projection on the S. side to cover the rood-stairs. (Registers, 1558.)

Thorpe Market.—The church of St. Margaret is a modern building built about a century ago. Of it Mr. Walter Rye writes : " This church is perhaps the best specimen in England of the well-known ' Churchwardens ' Gothic, and is certainly the ugliest place of worship I ever entered." Since he wrote some efforts have been made to improve the interior. (Registers, 1538.)

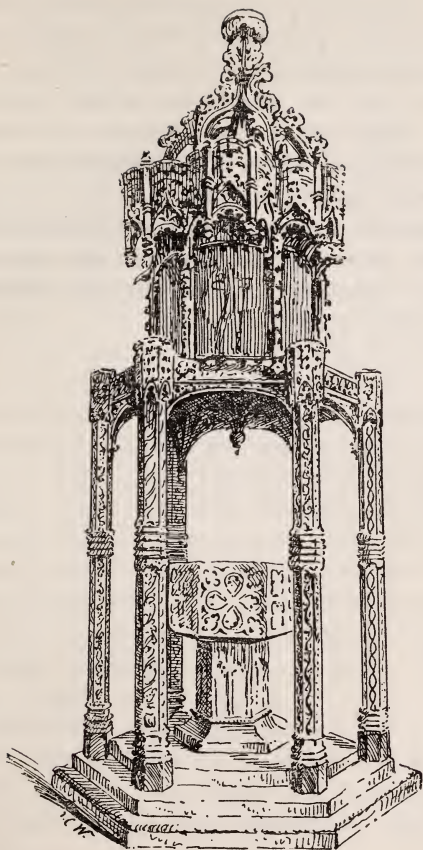
Thurgarton. — The church of All Saints, restored in 1879, and again in 1899, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and a bellcote for two bells. It is chiefly of Dec. date. The old tower was round Norm. ; it was standing early last cent. The old porch was a curious structure of timber and plastered laths. (Registers, 1538.)

Trimingham. — The small church of St. John Baptist, a fabric of flint and stone, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The low substantial tower, with two great angular buttresses on the W., dates from about 1300. The nave has two simple windows of about the same date in the N. wall and one in

the S. Though there is a plain porch on the S. side, the N. door seems to have been the usual entrance ; over it is an image niche, and to the left an unbroken holy - water stoup. There is an octagonal font adorned with tracery ; much of the base has been renewed. The most interesting feature of the church is the 15th cent. rood-screen ; much of the upper part has been renewed. The lower panels have the paintings of eight saints in fairly good preservation. To the right are Sts. Petronilla, Dorothy, Cecilia, and Edward ; to the left are Sts. Edmund, Clare, Clement, and James the Great. The doorway to the rood-loft stairs remains in the N. wall. A card hung up in the church perpetuates an error made by the writer of *Round the East Anglian Coast*. A will, made shortly before the Reformation, mentions the head of St. John Baptist at Trimingham Church. This has been supposed to mean a relic of the whole or part of the Baptist's actual head. Had this been the case, Trimingham would have at once become a noted place of pilgrimage throughout Christendom. Such entries, however, are by no means unusual in English medieval wills ; they merely refer to the numerous representations of the Baptist's head in alabaster, which were manufactured at Nottingham and Burton-on-Trent by workers in the alabaster found at Chellaston in Derbyshire.

One of these must have found its way to Trimingham Church, and had probably there become associated with some special cult or gild. (Registers, 1748.)

Trunch.—The church of St. Botolph consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The tower of four stages is early Perp., and most of the rest of the church about 1360–80; but there are several later Perp. windows. Here, as at Knapton, there is a small Perp. chancel porch. A small squint (12 inches by 6 inches) in the N. wall of the chancel opened into an ankerhold or sacristy about 12 feet square, of which traces remain. There is the base of an Easter sepulchre. Three re-turned stalls on each side, with misericords, are Perp.; there are also some poppy-head bench-ends in the nave. The rood-screen, dated 1502, has originally been beautifully painted; the panels used to bear St. Paul and the Apostles (except St. Matthias). There is also some rich painting on a timber arch into the tower, where there was a former W. gallery. The fine open Perp. roof of the nave (single hammer-beam) is of much interest. But the most remarkable and unique feature of the church is the carved and painted timber canopy over the font. The octagonal Perp. font is not in itself noteworthy, but it is surrounded by six square shafts or small buttressed



Font Canopy, Trunch.

pillars supporting a hexagon canopied top, which originally bore paintings of the Crucifixion, &c. The whole stands free of the font, leaving room within it for the celebration of the baptismal rites. There are a few fragments of brasses and matrices of others in the central aisle. An interesting palimpsest brass to Walter Bownyng and Melicent, his wife, 1473, with portions of a Flemish dress on the reverse, has been unhappily removed to the British Museum. (Registers, 1558.)

THE DEANERY OF SPARHAM

Attlebridge.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower ; the interior was restored in 1864. The fabric is chiefly of the Perp. period, but there is earlier work in the chancel, and a low-side window in the usual place. The font is Norm.; it has a slightly developed octagonal shape. There are small brasses to John Wafyn, 1457; to Thomas Peck, 1493; to William Elys, 1490; to George Conynggam (chalice), vicar, 1525; and to Alexander Bedingfield, 1588. The head of a beautiful brass processional cross (14th cent.,) was found here in 1813; it was in the possession of Rev. Mr. Sparling, of North Walsham, in 1843. (Registers, 1714.)

Alderford.—The small church of St. John the Baptist consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The fabric is in the main Dec., but with various Perp. insertions. (Registers, 1723.)

Bawdeswell.—The small church of All Saints is a plain building, rebuilt in 1845 of brick

and flint, consisting of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. belfry. Its predecessor, according to Ladbroke's drawing, *c.* 1825, had an early 18th cent. wall of pseudo-classical style, and lacked a chancel. (Registers, 1557.)

Billingsford.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of bays with aisles, S. porch, and octagonal W. tower. The tower has good panelled battlements. The fabric is mainly Dec., with later Perp. insertions and additions. There are piscinas in the chancel and N. aisle, and a holy water stoup by the S. entrance. (Registers, 1744.)

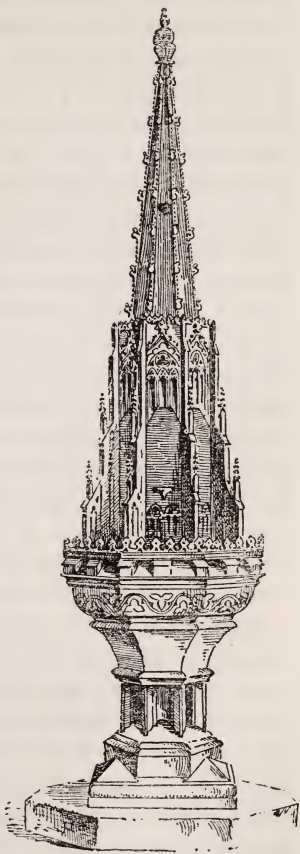
Bintree.—The church of St. Swithun consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, S. transept, and W. tower. The chancel was rebuilt in 1806, and there was much restoration in 1865. The church is chiefly late Dec. of the second half of the 14th cent. (Registers, 1686.)

Brandiston.—The church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and low round W. tower. The tower was rebuilt and a new vestry added in 1890. The church was restored in 1850. The chancel and porch are late Dec., and the nave chiefly Perp. There are some interesting fragments of old glass. (Registers, 1610.)

Bylaugh.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, transepts, and W. tower, with

circular Norm. base and hexagonal belfry stage. With the exception of the tower there is little work older than a century, for the church was enlarged and rebuilt by Sir John Lombe in 1810. There is a very good brass to Sir John Curson and wife, 1471, and a chalice brass to Robert Fielde, 1508. (Registers, 1557.)

Elsing.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel with N. sacristy, nave, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. This fine building is an excellent example of good Dec. work, dating throughout *c.* 1340. It was too severely restored in 1866. The exceptional feature of the fabric is the great width of the aisle-



Font and Cover, Elsing

less nave, viz., 39 feet 6 inches. In the centre of the chancel is a notable brass, which, when perfect, must have been one of the very finest in the kingdom. It commemorates Sir Hugh Hastings, the founder of the present church, who died in 1347; the effigy (the lower part of which is missing) stands beneath a canopy of extraordinary richness. It is fully described and illustrated in Macklin's *Brasses of England*, pp. 47-9. The font is of good Dec. design, with a lofty and once beautifully painted Perp. cover. The base of the rood-screen, of rich design, remains; the panels used to bear the twelve Apostles. On the S. side of the chancel is a good plain piscina and triple sedilia. The scattered remains of 14th cent. glass throughout the church were gathered together in 1902 and placed in two of the chancel windows. The fine battlements of the tower are noteworthy. (Registers, 1558.)

Foulsham.—The fine church of the Holy Innocents consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, transept, S. porch, and W. tower. The church is chiefly Perp., but there are some Dec. portions. The late Perp. tower, 90 feet high, has undergone many vicissitudes. It was originally built about 1489 by one of the Lords Morley, but it was restored in 1770 after suffering (together with the rest of the church) much damage from a fire which devastated the

village in 1770. A restoration of the tower was carried out in 1892, but the great gale of 24th March, 1895, caused serious damage not only to the tower, but to the nave, roof, and clerestory windows, involving further repairs. There are good sound-holes in the second stage of the tower. There is a brass dated 1526 to a member of the Themelthorpe family. Note also in the chancel a monument to Sir Thomas Hunt, 1616, with the effigies of his three wives kneeling behind him. (Registers, 1746.)

Foxley.—The church of St. Thomas consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and the fine W. tower. It is chiefly Perp., but the chancel has certain 14th cent. features. On the base of the old screen the figures of the four Latin Doctors and St. Louis, &c., were formerly recognised. (Registers, 1700.)

Guestwick.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and tower. The tower formed part of an earlier edifice, when it was central between nave and quire; it now stands at the E. end of N. aisle, where there are two good Norm. arches. The upper part of the present tower is Dec., and the body of the church Perp. There are several brasses extant, including a chalice brass to John Robertson, a former vicar, 1504, and another to Richard at Hyll, 1505. (Registers, 1558.)

Guist.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of a chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was rebuilt in 1886, and the rest of the church restored in 1890. The fabric is late 15th cent. (Registers, 1586.)

Haveringland.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, N. aisle, N. and S. porches, and round W. tower. The church was rebuilt in 1858, save the circular Norm. tower. The chancel of the old church had long been missing; the nave was Perp., and the aisle Dec. (Registers, 1694.)

Hindolveston (usually called Hilderston).—The large church of St. George consists of chancel with S. vestry, nave, N. aisle, and ruinous W. tower. The fabric is in the main of the Perp. period. The tower fell on 31st July 1892, destroying a considerable part of the body of the church; it was recently restored. Here is a brass, with effigies, to Edmund Hunt, 1558, and his wife Margaret, 1568, and their ten sons and four daughters. (Registers, 1722.)

Hackford-next-Reepham.—The church of All Saints of this considerable parish used to stand in the same churchyard as that of Reepham. It was destroyed by fire in 1543. The inhabitants use the church of Whitwell, to which living the rectory is annexed.

Lyng.—The small church of St. Michael

consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower ; it was new roofed in 1902. The tower is 14th cent., the body of the church and porch, with an upper room, 15th cent., and the chancel debased. The church possesses an interesting medieval relic in an altar-cloth, 6 feet 9 inches by 3 feet 8 inches, formed out of two 15th cent. copes of blue and red velvet respectively, and of a third vestment or chasuble of tawny velvet. The materials are foreign, but the embroidery English. (Registers, 1539.)

Morton-on-the-Hill.—The small church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It was repaired in 1865. The circular Norm. tower has a 14th cent. octagonal belfry stage. The porch is 15th cent., whilst work of 13th, 14th, and 15th cents. can be noted in the body of the church. (Registers, 1559.)

Reepham.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and tower on the S. side. It has been extensively restored. The fabric is chiefly late Dec. The square font, on a circular stem and four angle shafts, is E.E. The door to the belfry under the tower has some fine flowing scroll iron-work. There is some good old seating and poppy-head bench-ends. There are two notable old monuments. In the chancel is a brass with effigies under a fine canopy, and with marginal

inscription, to Sir William de Kerdiston, 1391, and Cecilia (Brewer), his wife. There are also brasses, with inscriptions only, to Margaret Camplyn, 1527; to John Jeckes, 1577; and to Richard Heyward, 1608. Under an arch in the N. wall of the chancel, on a table-tomb, resting on a bed of pebbles, is the stone effigy of Sir Roger de Kerdiston, 1337. The singular attitude of the knight in complete armour of the period, with right hand on the sword-hilt and left arm thrown across the body, with hand touching the pebble bed, has been exactly reproduced, doubtless by the same sculptor, at Ingham, in this county, in the case of Sir Oliver de Ingham, 1344. The bed of stones in each case still puzzles antiquaries; it is just possible that both knights were shipwrecked. The sides of this tomb are arcaded, and have small standing effigies (showing some traces of colour) of children, relatives, or others termed "weepers." There are various instances in East Anglia and elsewhere in which two churches stand, or have stood, in the same churchyard, but Reepham is, in this respect, unique. Not only do the walls of this yard still encircle the church of Whitwell parish, as well as that of Reepham, but up to 1543 there was here the third church of Hackford parish then destroyed by fire. (Registers, 1538.)

Ringland.—The fine church of St. Peter

consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and lofty W. tower. The chancel was restored in 1880, and further repaired in 1901. There was a general repair of the rest of the fabric in 1887. The fabric is 15th cent. throughout; the nave roof is exceptionally fine. The tower battlements and the buttresses are panelled. (Registers, 1688.)

Sall church (Sts. Peter and Paul) is one of the finest and most interesting in Norfolk, and is throughout of 15th cent. date. It consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of seven bays with aisles, transepts, N. and S. porches, each with an upper chamber, and a lofty W. tower. Restoration work was done to the chancel in 1887, and again in 1903. Much needed repairs were carried out in the nave roof in 1904. Among the various excellent exterior features the terminations of the chancel buttresses, rising above the parapet, should be noted; on each is an angel with the wings thrown backward. The seven-light E. window is a fine study. The enriched parapet and the W. portal of the lofty tower are most striking; the spandrels of the doorway of the latter bear censing angels. The W. doors are original, and so too are the doors to the stairways to both of the porch chambers. The chamber of the S. porch has a piscina, showing that it was occasionally used as a chapel. In the interior

the nave arcades are singularly light and lofty. The nave roof retains much of the original painting, being powdered with the sacred monogram and with crowned M.'s. The original treatment of the roofs of both chancel and transepts was much richer; the carved bosses of the former had the Life of our Lord for their subject. The traceried spandrels to the trusses of the nave aisles were also exceptionally good. In the chancel are some well-carved stalls with misericords. Only the lower part of the rood-screen remains; the painted panel figures are nearly obliterated; the four Latin Doctors, and St. James the Less, St. Bartholomew, and St. Thomas have been identified. The original W. gallery under the tower retains some of its colouring; from a projecting beam hangs the font cover. The panels of the font are sculptured with the Seven Sacraments; round the lower step is an inscription recording that it is the gift of Thomas Hice and his son Robert, the chaplain. In the vestry is a 15th cent. iron-bound chest with three locks. There are several brasses yet extant, though others have been lost or stolen. The interesting one of 1440 to Geoffrey Boleyn, Anne his wife, and their ten children is in the latter category. There remain—John Brigge, in a shroud, 1415, with a curious inscription; Geoffrey Matman, *c.* 1460, a palimpsest; inscriptions to Simon Boleyn,



SALL, S.

chaplain, 1482 ; Thomas Haghan, chaplain, 1483 ; Margaret Calwe, 1486 ; Margaret Ryghtwys, 1500 ; John Ryghtwys, 1504 ; William Fontayne and his wife, 1513 ; and Henry Hoddys, 1532. (Registers, 1559.)

Sparham.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of four bays with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower ; it was restored in 1889. The fabric is throughout of late 15th cent. design, with the exception of two 14th cent. windows and the priests' doorway on the S. side of the chancel. The base of an interesting old screen has panels painted on one side with the Dance of Death, and on the other with Sts. Thomas of Canterbury, Walstan, and other saints. There are some good original benches with traceried backs, and a pre-Reformation pulpit. The traceried S. door is original. The arcaded font is E.E. (See the long account of this church by Dawson Turner in *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1842.) (Registers, 1573.)

Swannington.—The church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The whole fabric is, in the main, a good example of Dec. work of the 14th cent. (Registers, 1538.)

Themelthorpe.—The small church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. It underwent considerable

restoration in 1873. With the exception of the Perp. porch, the building is of 14th cent. date. (Registers, 1715.)

Thurning.—The church of St. Andrew consists of nave, N. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was in ruins in Ladbroke's sketch (c. 1824); the old three-light E. window, with quatrefoil tracery, has been built up again at the E. end of the nave, with the priests' doorway by its side. The fabric is chiefly 14th cent., but the square-headed E. window of the aisle is late 15th cent. (Registers, 1715.)

Twyford.—The small church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, nave, and N. porch. There is a low brick tower surmounted by a cupola on the S. side near the W. end, the basement forming the porch. There are windows of 13th, 14th, and 15th cent. date. (Registers, 1558.)

Weston Longville.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The fabric is chiefly 14th cent., with some later 15th cent. windows. The clerestory has quatrefoil Dec. windows, five on each side. There are triple sedilia in the chancel, some remains of old glass, and the old altar *mensa* is under the Holy Table. The lower part of the 15th cent. rood-screen has panel paintings of the Apostles, with sentences from the Creed. (Registers, 1660.)

Whitwell.—The church of St. Michael, standing in Reepham churchyard to the W. of that church, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and embattled W. tower. It is chiefly of Perp. style, but the pinnaced tower is late 14th cent. The church underwent restoration and reseating in 1894. (Registers, 1584.)

Witchingham, Great.—The church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The fabric is mainly 15th cent., but the four-light E. window is late Dec., and the chancel has also some 13th cent. windows. The octagonal Seven Sacraments font is good Perp. (Registers, 1539.)

Witchingham, Little.—The small church of St. Faith consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, and W. tower, of 15th cent. date, and of no special interest. (Registers, 1565.)

Wood Dalling.—The fine church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and lofty W. tower. It is throughout of Perp. style in the first half of the 15th cent. The tower has good sound-holes in the third stage. It was restored in 1867. There is a brass plate in the chancel to Robert Dockyng, chaplain, 1465; also a chalice brass to Edward Warcop, chaplain, 1510. (Registers, 1653.)

Wood Norton.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W.

tower. It was severely restored in 1881. The tower, nave, and porch are mainly 17th cent., and the chancel 15th cent. (Registers, 1722.)

A small 13th cent. building, now used as a barn, is the remains of the old church of St. Peter.

THE DEANERY OF TOFTREES

Hempton.—The present small church was built in 1855-6. Some ruins of the old parish church (St. Andrew) are still standing at Shereford Lane, though not much more than heaps of stones. The church went to decay early in Elizabeth's reign.

Helhoughton.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and low W. tower. It was "thoroughly restored" in 1890. The Dec. style of the 14th cent. predominates in the old parts of the fabric. There is very little of interest in the church except a brass with an engraved heart and three scrolls to William Stapilton and wife, *c.* 1450. (Registers, 1540.)

Pudding Norton.—The church of St. Margaret of this small parish was in ruins in 1550. Portions of the tower and of the walls of the nave are still standing in a field.

Rainham St. Margaret (or West Rainham).—The church was long ago suffered to fall into ruins, and the parish consolidated with that of Rainham St. Mary. The remains of tower and

nave walls are somewhat picturesque owing to thick mantling of ivy. (Registers, 1539.)

Rainham St. Martin (or South Rainham).—The church consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower. There used to be an old rood-screen, with panel paintings of saints; but it passed into private hands some sixty years ago. The fabric is mainly 15th cent. and is devoid of interest. (Registers, 1740.)

Rainham St. Mary (or East Rainham).—The church was entirely rebuilt, at considerable cost, in 1867–8. There are brasses from the old church to George Townshend, *c.* 1500, and to Robert Godfrey, LL.B., rector, 1522, remarkable for its academic costume. (Registers, 1627.)

Ryburgh, Great.—The church of St. Andrew, of cruciform plan, consists of chancel, nave, transepts, S. porch, and a W. tower. The tower is circular at the base, probably Norm., but possibly Saxon, with a 15th cent. belfry stage of octagon plan. Most of the outer work of the church is 15th cent. The interior is devoid of any special interest. There are piscinas in the chancel and N. transept. The church underwent considerable restoration in 1860; the porch was built in 1891. (Registers, 1547.)

Shereford.—The small church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, nave, and W. tower. The circular tower is Norm., and so too is the S.



TOFTREES FONT (WEST SIDE)

doorway, sheltered by a debased timber porch ; the rest of the church is chiefly Dec., of the first half of the 14th cent. On the S. side of the chancel are double sedilia. (Registers, 1721.)

Testerton.—The church of St. Remigius is another of those numerous parish churches of Norfolk which were suffered to go into ruin during Queen Elizabeth's days. Only a portion of the tower now remains—a somewhat picturesque ivy-covered fragment, in the middle of a ploughed field.

Toftrees.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and parts of a W. tower. The old parts of the fabric are chiefly 13th and early 14th cents. The one notable feature is the font. This font is one of the most interesting and remarkable in the whole county (see *Reliquary*, April 1902). The bowl is round inside and square outside, and has a short and stumpy column at each angle ; it is supported by five small columns, with cushion capitals, one at each angle and one in the centre. There are grotesque heads at each corner. The sculpture of interlaced work is extremely rich, and consists of combinations of looped and knotted rings. This font has sometimes been described as Saxon, but it is indubitably Norm. It should be compared with the richly carved fonts of Castle Rising, Shernborne, and Sculthorpe in this county. (Registers, 1763.)

THE DEANERY OF WALSINGHAM

Barney.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. transept, S. porch, and W. tower. It was restored in 1890. On the S. side of the chancel are two pairs of E.E. lancets, and a corresponding priests' doorway; an E. window of the transept is Dec.; but most of the other features, including octagonal font, are 15th cent. (Registers, 1538.)

Binham.—The parish church of St. Mary is of much interest; it is but a portion of the original, stately cruciform edifice of the once celebrated Benedictine priory of Binham, which was founded here towards the end of the 11th cent.; it was subordinate to the great abbey of St. Albans. The quire, with the two eastern bays of the nave, was used by the monks, whilst the rest of the nave, as was not unusual with Benedictine churches, served as the parish church. The whole of the conventual part of the church, including the massive central tower, was rendered ruinous at the dissolution of the monasteries; but the seven bays of the

nave, as now standing, were retained for parochial use. The interior of the nave is for the most part plain, massive Norm., but a wall was built up in early post-Reformation days between the piers, and the aisles allowed to fall into ruin. Above these blocked-up arcades is a round-headed triforium with open arches somewhat resembling those of Norwich Cathedral, and above them is a round-headed clerestory. The three W. bays, however, of the clerestory are E.E., and the W. front of the church is also remarkably good of the close of that period. The Perp. font is richly carved with the Seven Sacraments, and has various figures round the shaft, but it is much mutilated. Twelve of the old Perp. benches have poppy-head ends and good tracery in the backs. A piece of the base of the rood-screen is used on the N. side for quasi-choir stalls, and there are two stalls with misericords. (See the good account of the ruins in Harrod's *Castles and Convents of Norfolk*, p. 205.) (Registers, 1702.)

Cockthorpe.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The church underwent repair in 1839, and was further restored in 1908. The S. aisle is Dec., but most of the other features of the church are 15th cent.

Space must be found for the exuberant

inscription on the big proud monument to Sir James Calthorp and his dame in the S. aisle:—

“In assured hope resteth here the bodies of Sir James Calthorp, Knight, and Dame Barbara, his wife, daughter of John Bacon, Esq., of Hessel. By her he had eight sons and six daughters, in whose several marriages and issues the ancient glory of the name and family (resting then chiefly and almost solely in himself) did re-flourish, and is dilatated into many of the best houses in the county. He was buried the 16th day of June, A.D. 1615, and of his age 57. The said Barbara surviving him, and much comforted with the sight of 193 of their children and their offspring, at the age of 86 years, exchanged this life for a better upon the 3rd of November, A.D. 1639. ‘Behold, children are the inheritance of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb His reward.’—Ps. cxxvii. 3.”

This aisle was re-roofed by James Calthorp, grandfather of Sir James, by will of 1558. (Registers, 1560.)

Egmere.—The church of St. Edmund is one of the numerous Norfolk parish churches deliberately allowed to go to ruin and be profaned during the irreligious reign of Elizabeth. Sir Nicholas Bacon, Elizabeth’s Lord Keeper and Privy Seal, used it as a barn. The ivy-clad tower and part of the nave walls are still standing.

Hindringham.—The church of St. Martin consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and lofty W. tower. The chancel was rebuilt in 1870, and the tower repaired in 1897. The main features of the church are Perp., of the first half of the 15th cent. The fine five-light E. window of the chancel, with quatrefoil tracery, is Dec., of the second half of the 14th cent. At the E. end of S. aisle is a squint to the high altar. (Registers, 1660.)

Holkham.—The church of St. Withburga stands on an ancient artificial mound to the W. of the village, and about half a mile from the Hall. It now consists of chancel with N. and S. chapels, clerestoried nave with aisles, and lofty tower at the S.W. All that is old about it is 15th cent.; but almost the whole fabric was rebuilt or exuberantly restored, save the tower, in 1868–9, by Juliana, Countess of Leicester, at a cost of £10,000. The modern carved oak is specially to be commended; no two of the sixty bench-ends are alike. (Registers, 1542.)

Houghton St. Giles (or Houghton in the Hole) has a church consisting of chancel, nave, S. porch, and low W. tower. It was rebuilt in 1878. Ladbroke's S. view (*c.* 1824) shows that it was chiefly of late 15th cent. date. The richly-painted old rood-screen has been

re-erected. On the panels are painted Sts. Monica (with St. Augustine), Salome, James, John, B.V.M. and Child, Mary Cleopas, James the Less, Joses, Simon, Judas, Elizabeth (with St. John Baptist) and Anne (with B.V.M.), Sylvester, Clement, and the four Latin Doctors. (Registers, 1558.)

Snoring, Great.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and lofty W. tower; it was judiciously restored in 1898. The main building is throughout of advanced Perp. date, towards the end of the 15th cent.; the chancel is early 15th and partly 14th, to which Dec. period the fine five-light E. window of intersecting tracery belongs. There is a certain amount of painting on the base of the old rood-screen which came to light during the Restoration. The square font is E.E. An old black letter Commandment-table has been placed behind the altar, where it probably never stood before. In the chancel is a mutilated brass to Sir Ralph Shelton and wife, 1423, notable for enamelled heraldry. (Registers, 1560.)

Stiffkey was formerly a double parish with two churches in the same churchyard. The ruins of the church of St. John Baptist were finally cleared away about 1885 (the present writer saw them in 1882). The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower.

The chancel (previously much debased) was restored in 1848, and the rest of the church in 1879. It is of late 15th cent. date. There is an octagonal turret stairway to the rood-loft and roof at the E.E. angle of the nave. There is a brass to Margaret Branche, 1479. (Registers, 1548.)

Thursford.—The church of St. Andrew stands in the park of Thursford Hall, and used to be surrounded by the old village; it consists of chancel, nave with aisles, N. porch, and W. tower. It was restored in 1862. The fabric is almost exclusively 15th cent. The font is plain square Norm. on Dec. shaft. (Registers, 1692.)

Walsingham, Great, or Old Walsingham formerly had two churches, each parochial. The church of All Saints, which stood a little to the N. of St. Peter's, has almost disappeared, but some of the ruins (they were much more extensive thirty or forty years ago) can still be traced in a field near Westgate House. The church of St. Peter consists of nave, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel has been long destroyed. The nave and aisles are good late Dec.; the clerestory is lighted by quatrefoil windows, seven each side. The tower is also of the second half of the 14th cent. There are some good carved benches of both 14th and 15th cent.

date. The pulpit is dated 1613. (Registers, 1564.)

Walsingham, New (or Little).—The fine church of St. Mary consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, transept, N. and S. porches, and W. tower with slender lead-covered timber spire. The church underwent a poor kind of restoration in 1861. The fabric is throughout Perp., though of somewhat different dates in the 15th cent., the chancel being earlier than the body of the church, and the nave clerestory and S. window of S. transept executed the latest. The large S. porch is groined and has an upper chamber. The most notable feature of the interior is the highly enriched octagonal font; the panels round the bowl are carved with the Seven Sacraments and the Crucifixion; round the shaft are the figures of the four Evangelists and the four Latin Doctors; it is raised on three steps in the shape of a Maltese cross. The font cover, highly interesting of its kind, and of classical design, was presented, as a Latin inscription records, by Jane, wife of Sir Henry Sidney, *c.* 1625. It was ignorantly ejected "because it was not Gothic" in 1861, but has now been happily recovered and replaced. The rood-loft stairs are in the N. wall. There are old screens across the nave ends of each aisle, painted white over traces of colour. There is a quaint

square-headed piscina niche on the S. side of the N. aisle. In the N. transept is a good E.E. sepulchral slab with a Maltese cross at each end; also the large base of a Dec. churchyard cross. Here, too, is the big alabaster monument to Sir Henry Sidney, 1612, and his wife Jane. A curious memorial against the N. wall of the chancel, about 2 feet square, represents the front of a bed with the curtains drawn, and the words above it: *Dormitorium Edwardi de Fotherbye*. There is a chalice brass to William Westow (c. 1520). Some excellent 15th cent. glass in a S. window of chancel. (Registers, 1558.)

Warham All Saints consists of chancel, nave, transepts, S. porch, and W. bell-gable. The church was originally of much larger dimensions. The arcades of the former N. and S. aisles can be traced in the walls of the present nave, and there are some remains of the old massive central tower. Most of the fabric appears to be of 14th cent. date; but its mutilation and subsequent extensive restoration in 1877 have much confused its features; the windows are chiefly of 15th cent. style. There is a small interesting brass to William Rokewode, 1474, and a later one to members of the Framyngham family, 1550. (Registers, 1558.)

Warham St. Mary is a small parish adjoining

Warham All Saints. The church of St. Mary the Virgin disappeared in the early days that followed the Reformation, and even the site is unknown. The church now in use, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower ; it is of different dates and no special interest. (Registers, 1565.)

Wells-next-the-Sea.—The old church of St. Nicholas, of this ancient seaport, was almost entirely destroyed by fire, during a storm of lightning, on 3rd August 1879. It was rebuilt, as far as possible, on the old lines (15th cent. throughout), and consists of chancel with aisles, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and substantial W. tower. The new church was opened on 13th April 1883. Two side windows in the chancel retain old tracery, and a chancel doorway re-uses old mouldings. Over this doorway is a brass to Thomas Bradley, rector, 1499. In the vestry is an oak chest, dated 1635, which was saved from the fire. (Registers, 1548.)

Wighton.—The large church of All Saints consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was restored in 1866, and the rest of the church in 1897. The whole fabric is a very good example of Perp. work, *c.* 1450. The clerestory, of six bays, has an E. window

over the chancel roof. The rood-stairway is on the S. side of the chancel arch. There is a good octagonal Perp. font. Mr. Keyser, in his list of church paintings (1883), mentions "panel paintings of saints on the screen." (Registers, 1660.)

THE DEANERY OF WAXHAM

Ashmanhaugh.—This very small church (St. Swithun) consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The round tower (rebuilt 1849) is the smallest and lowest in the county, being only 10 feet in outer diameter. The only alteration in it is the addition of an embattled parapet. The nave and plain porch are Dec. The chancel is about 1400.

In the S.E. angle of the chancel is a table-tomb with a remarkable epitaph to Honor Bacon, a maiden who died on the eve of her marriage in 1591. The built-up rood-loft stairs are in the N. wall. There are twelve old poppy-head bench-ends; also a piece of seat-panelling, with a row of five shields, on which each of the Wounds are severally carved, together with a like number of shields bearing initial letters. There is a good drawing of the E.E. font in the Dawson Turner collection; it rests on eight small shafts and a central column. (Registers, 1562.)

Bacton.—The church (St. Andrew) of this sea-girt parish stands on an eminence; it con-

sists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The style of the fabric is 15th cent. throughout. The octagonal font, on two steps, has the evangelistic symbols, alternating with angel-borne shields, on the panels of the bowl. The door to the rood-loft stairs remains in the N. wall. The tower is an exceptionally good example. There was a poor restoration in 1847. The chancel has a vulgar tile reredos, but it retains three graded sedilia and a small piscina on the S. side. Against this S. wall hangs the flag of H.M.S. *Cormorant*, sunk by the Chinese in the attack on Taku Fort in 1859. (Registers, 1558.)

Barton Turf.—The church of St. Michael consists of chancel with S. chapel, clerestoried nave with aisles, N. and S. porches, and W. tower. It underwent a considerable restoration in 1890. The fabric is throughout Perp. On the S. side of the chancel is a well-built chapel (c. 1440). Most of the rest of the fabric is earlier in the same century. To the right of the altar is the projecting shaft of a piscina drain without any niche over it; a drain shaft of this date is unusual. In the quire is a slab bearing a brass inscription, and above it the matrix of a chalice and wafer. The inscription records the death, in 1497, of John Idewyne, vicar, who gave to the church a suit of vestments of red velvet. There are six old poppy-

head bench-ends affixed to quire seats. In the chapel is the following brass inscription :—

“ I beseche all peple far and ner
 To prey for me Thomas Amys hereby,
 Which gaf a mesbook and made this chapel her
 And a sewte of blewe damask also gaf I
 Of God MCCCCXL and V yer
 I the seid Thomas decesid verily,
 And the iiii day of Auguste was beried her
 On whoos sowle god have mercy.”

On an adjoining stone is another brass inscription :—

“ Here are beryd under this stoon in the cley
 Thomas Amys and his wiffe Margerey.
 Sumtyme we were as ye now be,
 And as we be after this shall ye
 Of such godes as God had the seid Thomas lent
 Dede make this chapel of Seint Thomas to a good
 etent,
 Wherefore they desire of youre charitie
 To pray for them to the Holy Trinite.”

It is sometimes said that this church has a pre-Reformation wooden lectern, but it is in reality a sloping desk, with carved sides, that has been mounted on an ungainly stand. The carved rood-screen is of much interest. The faces of the twelve figures on the lower panels, representing the Heavenly Hierarchy, together with Sts. Appollonia, Sitha, and Barbara, are well painted and not much injured.

There is the base of another screen at the entrance to the chapel of St. Thomas, on which are painted the figures of four kings — Sts. Edward the Confessor, Edmund, Olaf, and Henry VI. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a good angle piscina niche. The octagonal font is Perp.; both bowl and base have traceried panels. The S. porch has a groined roof with a room over it; it has a handsome panelled front in light-coloured flint and stone. The W. tower is a fine one of four stages, with angle buttresses carried up to the battlements, surmounted by figures instead of pinnacles; the W. door of the tower is original and well carved. (Registers, 1558.)

Beeston.—The small church of St. Laurence consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and a round W. tower. The round tower is a small example, only 14 feet in diameter. A W. window and four bell-chamber lights were inserted in the 14th cent.; the battlements are later. Two or three of the small original lights can be traced; the triangular heads make it probable that the tower is pre-Conquest. The S. porch and the windows of the nave show that the body of the church was rebuilt in the 14th cent. There is a projection on the N. side to cover the rood-loft stairs. The chancel (c. 1400) has some good early Perp. windows, crocketed buttresses, and large panelled arcade work below the E. window.

Against the S. chancel wall is a singularly ugly modern red-brick vestry. (Registers, 1558.)

Bradfield.—The church of St. Giles now consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. Over the porch is a tablet: "Chr. Fowler and C. L. Neve, churchwardens. Rebuilt 1726." This "rebuilding" mainly consisted in abolishing the two aisles and building up the arcades. From the parts of these arches and piers visible in the interior it is obvious that they are of 14th cent. date. In fact all the old work of both chancel and nave is *c.* 1340. The best architectural features are the two buttresses at the E. end of the chancel, surmounted by crocketed pinnacles. The fine W. tower of four stages is Perp.; the Perp. octagonal font has traceried panels. There is a large Dec. piscina niche, with cinquefoil head, in the S. wall of the chancel. In the opposite wall is a considerable recess, where the Easter sepulchre probably stood. An old doorway in the wall communicates with a red-brick vestry, but it is on the site of an earlier sacristy or ankerhold. There are brass inscriptions to John Tebald and Agnes his wife, 1490; to John Tebold, 1506; and to Margaret, wife of Thomas Heins, 1534. The church was re-roofed and restored in 1864. (Registers, 1725.)

Two interesting discoveries were made in the churchyard in 1902. The base and part of the

shaft of the old churchyard cross (Dec.) was turned up, and is now placed to the right hand of the S. gateway. On the S. side of the churchyard a well was found, 21 feet deep, with a carefully-lined shaft, 5 feet in diameter, and arched over with stone, save for a small central opening. This well had probably some sacred repute ; from the smallness of the opening it could not have been used for any domestic or church cleansing purposes.

Brunstead.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel and nave (continuous), S. porch, and fine W. tower. The body of the church, which is thatched, is of lofty Dec. proportions. The tall pointed windows of the S. side are reproduced on the N., save that the mullions of the latter lack cusping. This church seems to be clearly one of those to be found in every county, where a good design of rebuilding was summarily interrupted by the horrors of the Black Death of 1348-9. It was not till about 1380 or 1400 that work on this church was resumed, when the porch and tower were added. There were not, apparently, sufficient funds to supply a structural chancel. Two small square-headed windows, of the same date as the tower, were inserted high up in the nave walls at the E. end, one on each side, probably to throw light on a rood-screen very near the E. wall, or else on the altar. In the S. wall is a built-up small

doorway for the rood-loft stairs. The octagonal font is Dec., with the panels carved in quatrefoils. A board in this dreary church states that the roof was renewed in 1834 ; it was reseated and further restored in 1866. The five-light E. window has new tracery, which dates from 1875, when there was much restoration of the chancel. (Registers, 1560.)

Catfield.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The embattled tower is Dec., but the rest of the church chiefly Perp. The windows of the aisles are unusually lofty ; the two E. windows have interior jamb-shafts. There are steps in the window-sills of the two easternmost side-windows of the aisles for gaining access to the rood-loft. There is a stairway out of the church to the room over the south porch. In front of the porch is a large sun-dial, but the lettering is obliterated. The Perp. font is a heavy octagon, embattled at the top, with tracery round both bowl and base. The chancel, of a good size, is of three bays. The rood-screen remains in fair preservation. The base panels have paintings of sixteen saintly kings, including St. Edmund, with ermine and gilt crowns. A most interesting series of 14th cent. wall paintings was discovered in this church in 1840, but they were soon afterwards shamefully

re-whitewashed. (See *Norfolk Archæology*, vol. i., pp. 133-9, 1847). There is an iron hour-glass stand at the back of the pulpit. At the W. end of the church, on the N. side of the tower arch, is a large lofty recess, which has served as a locker for the processional cross and banner-staves. A doorway in the panelling that fills up the tower archway bears the date 1605. (Registers, 1723.)

Crosthight.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel roof is thatched and the nave tiled. The nave is of dressed flint, and the rest undressed. The fine lofty tower, after being long in a dangerous condition owing to the idle suffering of the destructive ivy, had at last to be taken down in 1910 ; the base is now roofed over level with the nave. Much of the fabric is of Dec. date. The windows of the nave are of plain, intersecting tracery, and have been renewed. The E. window of the chancel is Perp. There are two small niches for images in the front of the porch ; within the porch is a holy-water stoup. The entrance to rood-loft stairs remains on the N. side. The 15th cent. rood-screen is very well carved, but there is no painting now left on the panels ; the spandrels of the tracery are quaint and noteworthy. The octagonal font is of Purbeck marble, supported on a central shaft and eight small ones, and is E.E. On

each side of the altar is an old stone-coffin slab with crosses in slight relief; they are both of 13th cent. date. There used to be many 14th cent. wall paintings. The church was restored in 1896. (Registers, 1698.)

Dilham.—The church of St. Nicholas is merely a small parallelogram of red brick with a line of flints at the base, and with windows that have wooden tracery. The red brick S. porch, with stone facings, is the most substantial part of the structure. Over the entrance is a tablet inscribed:—"James Taylor, William Lyall, churchwardens, MDCCLXXV." The old church was rebuilt on the meanest lines, both within and without, in 1775. (Registers, 1563.)

Eccles-by-the-Sea.—The larger portion of the parish of Eccles has long ago been absorbed by the encroachment of the sea. That which now remains is incorporated with Hempstead. The church (St. Mary) had to be abandoned in 1605, but the round tower remained upright until the great storm of 1895. Part of the tower still stands on the beach, where it is washed by every high tide. That so much should have remained reflects great credit on the mortar and structural skill of the Norm. builders. The fragment now remaining stands 6 feet 9 inches above the sand drifts; it consists of about half of the W. side of a circular Norm. tower

of pebble formation. The wall is 4 feet 7 inches thick, and is 18 feet in outside diameter. Two or three large disjointed fragments of this tower rise from the sand near the tower base. The tower is about 30 feet from the base of the sloping sand-hills which here protect the coast.

Edingthorpe. — The small church of All Saints stands in the fields some little distance to the W. of the village, in a churchyard overgrown with bracken. It consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower.

The circular Norm. tower had an octagonal stage added about 1400. This is also the date of the nave and chancel, as is shown by the various windows which are in the early Perp. style. In the N. wall of the nave, at the E. end, is the doorway to the rood-loft, and immediately above a large image bracket with lofty niche having a traceried head. At the W. end is a pointed doorway into the tower. The octagonal Perp. font has quatrefoils in the panels, and a well-moulded base.

To the like period pertains the rood-screen with its handsome tracery. In the base of the screen are three panels on each side with large figures of saints somewhat coarsely painted. To the N. are Sts. Bartholomew, Andrew, and Peter; to the S. are Sts. Paul and James,

and St. Catharine with a palm branch in her left hand, and a book in the right. The S. door is original; the lock and ring-plate are worth noting. In front of the screen, on a floor-slab, is a very small dateless brass with a Latin inscription asking for prayers for the soul of Raffe Spor, and another to Nicholas Lensted.

On the panelling of the reading-desk is the date 1587 rudely carved. The pulpit is of the same style. To the like period probably belong some poor attempts at outline poppy-head bench-ends. (Registers, 1560.)

Felmingham.—The church of St. Andrew, with the exception of the 15th cent. W. tower, was rebuilt in brick in 1742 after a pseudo-classical style. Affixed to the W. wall of the nave are two palimpsest brasses. The one bears an inscription to Ursula Wychchynggam, *c.* 1530, whilst the reverse has an inscription to William Elyer, chaplain, 1500. The other is inscribed to Robert Moone, 1591, whilst the reverse shows the centre part of a priest in mass vestments, *c.* 1450–60. (Registers, 1754.)

Happisburgh (pronounced Hazeborough).—The church of St. Mary, which stands on an eminence immediately overlooking the sea, consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and fine W. tower, 110 feet high. It

may be included among the first dozen of the finest Perp. churches of the county. The style of the work places it about the middle of the 15th cent., but there are some traces of an earlier date on the N. side of the chancel, and two S. windows and the piscina niche are *c.* 1360. At the E. end of the N. aisle, close to the rood-loft stairs doorway, is the capital of a respond which tells of a former 14th cent. arcade. The arcades of the five bays of the nave, with the good clerestoried windows and the aisle windows, &c., are obvious Perp. The octagonal font is a handsome example of 15th cent. work. It stands on a flight of three octagonal steps. Round the bowl are the Evangelistic emblems, alternating with angels playing musical instruments. Alternate wild men and lions support the base. In the S. wall of the S. aisle is a large recess with three richly ornamented canopies and traces of colouring and gilding. Possibly here stood the altar of the Guild of the Holy Trinity. There is a fairly good 15th cent. rood-screen in the chancel arch, but it was much pulled about and absurdly re-arranged during a restoration. Within the screen are plain re-turned stalls with poppy-heads. The handsome porch has a room over it; in the niche over the entrance is a fairly good figure of the Blessed Virgin and Child, said to be the original; if so it is marvellous that it escaped

mutilation. The fine lofty tower, now bereft of its pinnacles, attains to a height of 110 feet; it is of four stages, with good sound-holes in the third stage. At the W. end of the S. aisle there has been an adjunct of some size, having the internal measurement of 21 feet by 13 feet. In the W. wall of the aisle, originally protected by a grill, with a shelf or small platform in front, there must have stood some image of a particular local cult, and for its protection this curiously-placed chapel must have been erected. Close examination of the interior of the tower reveals the presence of various stones originally used in a Norm. church on this site. For a full illustrated account of this church by the present writer, see the *Builder*, 15th November 1902. (Registers, 1558.)

Hickling.—The church of St. Mary is a large building of flint and stone, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. It is of early 15th cent. date throughout, and has been too severely restored—the nave in 1875, the chancel in 1876, and the tower in 1890. There are arcades of five arches each side of the nave. The octagonal font is coeval with the fabric. The porch has an upper room, the S. window of which is blocked by a sun-dial of 1793; to the south of the doorway is a perfect holy water stoup in a niche. The tower, 90 feet high, is a fine example of the Norfolk

building *c.* 1400 ; it is of four stages. The W. doorway has fourteen shields looped-up, as it were, in the hollow of the moulding. The chancel is of poor appearance compared with the rest of the structure ; it has apparently extended about 18 feet further to the E. At the W. end of the N. aisle is an exceptionally beautiful sepulchral slab, 6 feet 6 inches long, and tapering from 2 feet to 15 inches ; it is richly carved in a floreated pattern, and has a marginal inscription in Lombardic capitals ; its date is *c.* 1260–70. Mr. Keyser, in 1883, mentions “a rood-screen, figures covered over with a coat of white paint.” (Registers, 1654.)

Hempstead.—The church of St. Andrew consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The nave and chancel are both thatched ; considerable restoration was done about 1878. There are three lofty-pointed windows each side of the nave, *c.* 1450. The chancel has several E.E. features remaining. There is a small lancet window in the centre of both S. and W. walls, and there are two low-side windows. On the S. side is a small priests’ doorway, the door of which, traceried at the top, is old. At the W. end of the church, each side of the tower, are two windows of late 14th cent. character. The 15th cent. porch has had an upper room which has now gone. The porch has handsomely enriched battlements. The

embattled tower is also 15th cent.; it is a plain and rather low example. The octagonal font has four lions round the base: roses alternate round the font itself with shields. The rood-screen has exceptionally good tracery, and is evidently by the same hand that devised the somewhat larger one at Happisburgh. The panels bear eight saints on each side, which have been identified as (S.) Sts. George, Erasmus, Stephen, Laurence, Blase, Francis, Leonard, and Eligius; (N.) Theobald, Dionysius, John of Bridlington, Egidius, Juliana, Edmund, and Edward the Confessor. The screen date is 1523. On the N. side are both the lower and upper doorways of the rood-loft stairs. There are four old poppy-head benches in the nave. The pulpit is good Jacobean; there is also the exceptional feature of a Jacobean reading-desk. The piscina niche in the S. wall of the nave has an inner recess for the cruets. The S. window of the chancel nearest the E. has the sill lowered to serve for sedilia. At the W. end is a chest of the 16th cent., with good linen-fold panels. (Registers, 1707.)

Honing.—The church of Sts. Peter and Paul consists of nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The body of the church was rebuilt in 1795. The "rebuilding" consisted of pulling down the chancel, save 3 or 4 feet, and bringing the walls of the aisles so close to the arcades that

between them there is little more than 4 feet. The windows were all filled with intersecting tracery of the cheapest character. The arcades on each side of the nave are *c.* 1500. There is a good archway into the tower, which is late 15th cent. work. The rood-loft stairs remain on the N. side, just within the chancel arch. The octagonal font is of 13th cent. Purbeck marble, with the usual simple arcade work; the base, however, is of 15th cent. date. On the floor at the E. end is the small brass effigy of Nicholas Parker, 1496. (Registers, 1630.)

Horning.—The church of St. Benedict consists of chancel, nave, clerestoried S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The priests' door on the S. side of the chancel, with dog-tooth hood-moulding, is of 13th cent. date. The chancel arch, and the arcade of the destroyed N. aisle, which is apparent in the wall of the nave, are of the time of Edward I. The remainder of the church is of 15th cent. date, but various of the windows were renewed in that style during a restoration of 1873-4. The tower is a fairly good example of the Norfolk flint and stone towers of the latter part of the 15th cent.; there are the four evangelists at the angles of the battlements. The octagonal font, the panels of which are rather roughly sculptured with tracery, is of late 15th cent., but the base is early 14th. There is a modern vestry on the N. side of the chancel,

but it is the successor of an old sacristy or ankerhold. From the vestry is a very small squint commanding the centre of the high altar. The piscina niche in the S. wall of the chancel has the drain covered by a four-leaved flower, with four small apertures. The stairs to the rood-loft on the S. side are in good condition ; their constant use is shown by their having been recapped with thin layers of Purbeck marble. In the chancel are four well-carved late bench-ends. On one is a realistic demon thrusting a man into the dragon's jaw ; on another a man strangling a serpent ; on a third is a crozier ; and the fourth is floreated. There are various poppy-head bench-ends in the church. At the W. end of the nave is a dug-out parish chest, with well-executed ornamental ironwork of early 13th cent. date. There is a small mural brass at the end of the aisle to Elsebeth Milward, 1598. This brass was rescued from a brazier's shop, and restored to the church in 1901.

The most interesting feature of the church remains to be noted, namely the presence of eight consecration crosses, six of which are on the chancel walls, and two on the S. wall of the S. aisle. In each case a cross paté is painted in chocolate tint on a roundel 11 inches in diameter. Another noteworthy feature is the early incised sun-dial, 7 inches square, on the chancel buttress to the E. of the priests' doorway. (Registers, 1558.)

Horsey.—The church of All Saints consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The tower is of round Norm. construction, but it was heightened by an octagonal embattled stage in the 15th cent. The chancel and nave are thatched with a continuous roof; there is no chancel arch. The windows throughout are of 15th cent., save the two single lights on the S. side of the chancel. Both the tower and the body of the church are much overgrown with ivy. The S. chancel window has a lowered sedilia sill. On the N. side are three almeries in a continuous line. The rood-screen of Perp. date is well carved. The upper and lower doorways of the rood-loft stairs remain on the N. side. There are a large number of poppy-head bench-ends and old benches. The octagonal font is arcaded on each panel. The church was restored in 1855. (Registers, 1559.)

Hoveton St. John.—The small church of St. John consists of chancel, nave, N. porch, and W. tower. The N. and S. doorways and the windows in the N. wall of the nave are of the end of the 14th cent. The square-headed windows on the S. of nave and chancel, with good hood-mouldings, are about a hundred years later. The low W. tower has been rebuilt in brick, and is thickly mantled with ivy. There is a plain octagonal font,

and a niche for a holy water stoup by the S. entrance. The church was restored and re-seated in 1890. (Registers, 1673.)

Hoveton St. Peter.—The church, which lies to the W. of Hoveton Park, is a small building of brick and stone, rebuilt in 1624, after lying desolate from 1538. The vicarage is annexed to that of Hoveton St. John. (Registers, 1624.)

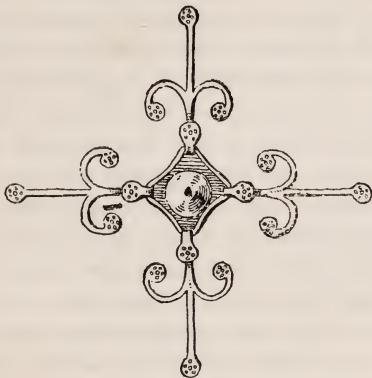
Ingham.—This stately 14th cent. church (Holy Trinity) consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. In 1355 papal licence was obtained by Sir Miles Stapleton to rebuild and enlarge the parish church, and to establish it as the conventual church of a priory of thirteen Trinitarian Canons, for the redemption of captives, according to the rule of St. Victor. The nave continued to be used as a parish church; it was under the charge of the sacrist of the priory, who lived in the two-storied chambers over the porch. The fine W. tower has four stages. On the N. side of the nave the upper and lower doorways communicating with the priory may be noticed. The ruins of the conventual buildings are on this side; the cloister adjoined the church. The octagonal Purbeck marble font is of early 13th cent. date; the base is new. There are the remains of a stone screen, or rather pulpitum, which shuts off the chancel used as the

conventual church by the canons. Under an arched recess on the N. side of the chancel is a table-tomb bearing the effigy of Sir Oliver de Ingham, seneschal of Gvyenne, who died in 1344. The effigy, clad in mail, with bascinet and camail, rests on a bed of stones; the posture, &c., closely resembles that of Sir Roger de Kerdiston at Reepham. On the wall at the back of the arch are the remains of a painting of a forest with wild beasts and an archer. At the end of the S. aisle are the effigies on a table-tomb of Sir Roger de Bois and his wife Margaret. These effigies, as well as that of Sir Oliver, were considered sufficiently good to be figured by Stothard in his celebrated work on *Monumental Effigies*. There are the remains of a brass to Sir Miles Stapleton (founder of the priory) and his wife, Joan, heiress of Sir Oliver de Ingham; he died in 1364. There used to be other good brasses to later members of the Stapleton family up to 1466, but these were stolen from the church in 1800, when the Lady Chapel was pulled down to save the expense of repairing the roof. There has been much restoration; the body of the church was well treated by Mr. Seddon, but the chancel indifferently by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1874. (Registers, 1801.)

Irstead.—The small church of St. Michael stands at the extreme N.E. angle of the parish,

cut off from all save water communication by Barton Broad and its outfall river. It consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The church is throughout *c.* 1400, except the S. aisle, which was added a century later. The interesting crossed arrangement of the foundation of the thatching of the church roof, which is covered with reeds, can be seen through the open rafters. The early Perp. octagonal font is somewhat exceptional; small lions and men (not wild men) rather coarsely executed, alternate at the base. Four of the faces of the bowl are sculptured with foliage, another with the Agnus Dei, and a sixth with the Manus Dei and scroll. The two other panels have bearded faces, possibly our Lord and St. John Baptist. On the N. side are the remains of the rood-loft stairway. The base of the rood-screen has six painted panels on each side, with the figures of the twelve Apostles, in a fair state of preservation. There are return stalls or seats of comparatively modern arrangement in the quire; part of their panelling is of ornamental work of the year 1663. The sill of a window of the chancel has been lowered to serve for sedilia. The seats both in nave and aisle, except for one white-painted deal form, are the original poppy-head benches of the same date as the aisle, *c.* 1500. The small pulpit appears to

be of a little later date, and has linen-fold panels rather coarsely executed. Under the tower is a fairly good Jacobean chest, now used as a coal-bin. The S. door is original; the elaborate work of the somewhat damaged iron ring-plate is noteworthy. In the chancel



Ironwork on S. door, Irstead

is a recent memorial window to the famed William of Wykeham, who is supposed to have been at one time rector of Irstead. But Bishop Wykeham died in 1404, whereas his namesake, the rector of this church, died in 1376. (Registers, 1538.)

Lessingham.—The church of All Saints is a small building consisting of chancel, nave, S. porch, and tower. It was restored in 1893,

when the walls of the nave were rebuilt. Both chancel and nave are thatched. The octagonal E.E. font is of Purbeck marble; the central shaft and eight small pillars date from the recent restoration. The two S. windows of the chancel, parts of two windows in the N. wall of the nave, the S. porch and doorway, and the two lower stages of the unbuttressed tower are of the last quarter of the 13th cent. The later insertions and the highest stage of the tower are Perp., or imitative of that period. The sill of a chancel window has been lowered to form a sedilia seat. In the opposite wall is a square almary, where rests a copy of the stout black-letter first edition of Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* in its original cover; it lacks a few pages at each end. The base is left of what was once a fine rood-screen; all the uprights have been sawn off; it dates from the latter part of the 14th cent. The tracery in the upper part of the panels is still richly gilded, and the scheme of colour can be traced. There are six saints on each side, originally the Apostles, but the four Fathers of the Church and St. Giles, on paper, were pasted over five of the apostolic figures, apparently in the 16th cent. Four female saints—Sts. Catherine, Apollonia, Mary Magdalene, and Margaret upon the doors of the rood-screen, detached. These are the names set out in Keyser's *Mural Decorations*, but five panels

were quite illegible in 1905. There are remains of the rood-loft staircase on the N. side, where the outer wall projects to accommodate the steps. Just by this doorway stands the small pulpit, with a quaint sounding-board, of about 1650 date. There is a brass inscription to Edmund Kynge and Cristiane his wife, 1505. (Registers, 1567.)

Ludham.—The large church of St. Catherine consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of six bays, with aisles, N. and S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel was poorly restored in 1861, but the body of the church in much better times (1891–3). The chancel is in the main late 14th cent., but the rest of the church is throughout of the next cent. The chancel is wide and desolate looking, with a painful modern reredos ; but there are richly canopied sedilia and a similar piscina niche, with cinquefoil ogee heads, in the S. wall, and also some old re-turned stalls. In the vestry is a good early 17th cent. Commandment-table, in black letter. The rood-loft stairs are on the N. side. The rood-screen is elaborately painted ; it is dated 1493, and bears on the twelve panels Sts. Mary Magdalene, Stephen, Edmund, Henry VI., the four Latin Doctors, Edward the Confessor, Walstan, Laurence, and Apollonia. As to St. Walstan, see under Bawburgh. Henry VI., though not canonised,

is given a halo ; there is no mistaking him, for the lettering below is *Rex Henric' Sext.* The tympanum of the arch over the screen is filled up, and on the boarding is painted the Rood with Sts. Mary and John. On the back of this, facing E., are the royal arms of Elizabeth, and the words—*Non me pudet Evangelium Christi. Vivat Regina Elizabethæ.* It seems that at the Reformation this boarded tympanum was reversed to get a good surface for the royal arms, but a second reversion, effected in 1861, brought back the old religious arrangement. At the E. end of S. aisle is a squint commanding the high altar. Here, too, over a piscina niche, a fairly well-modelled hand projects $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the wall ; it has been suggested it was to hold a taper. The nave has a good hammer-beam roof, and there are various old poppy-head bench-ends worked up in the seating. Near the N. door is an old big alms-box, formed of the trunk of an oak tree, well banded with iron, and secured by four padlocks. An oak chest, with a coved lid formed of half a tree trunk, is of 15th cent. date. The S. porch has an upper room. The octagonal 15th cent. font has lions alternating with the evangelistic emblems ; at the base are two lions and two wild men. There are several brasses in this church dating from 1350 to 1659. (Registers, 1583.)

Neatishead.—Of the once fine church of St. Peter only the capacious chancel now remains. If the rest of the building was on the same scale it must have been a church of considerable magnitude. A tablet over the W. entrance states that it was "rebuilt in the year 1790." The "rebuilding" consisted of sweeping away the whole of the fabric, save the chancel, and building up its W. end. A careful scrutiny of the present W. front shows that it is largely composed of old moulded stones taken from the window-jambs and tracery, and from the buttresses of the dismantled portion. Over the doorway is some curious entablature, showing three half-length small figures kneeling, flanked on each side by two uncharged shields. This is probably part of the enrichment of the front of the old S. porch. A wooden cupola over the W. gable carries the single bell. In 1870 the tracery of the windows was removed. The Perp. font is octagonal, and has traceried sculpture both on bowl and base. The small pulpit is formed of linen-fold panels, and there is an old chest of like design in the modern E. vestry. This woodwork is probably of the beginning of the 16th cent. (Registers, 1676.)

Palling.—The church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave of three bays, S. porch, and W. tower. The nave has been of good

design (*c.* 1325), with two fine lofty windows on each side. But the tops of these windows have been cut off by lowering the pitch of the roof; one of those on the N. side is blocked up, and the remaining three are filled with great square panes of glass in slight wooden frames. The equally good though smaller windows at the W. end of the nave, each side of the tower, are also blocked up. In the W. wall there is only a plain pointed doorway into the tower. The absence of a tower archway here and at the neighbouring church of East Ruston (and in a few other instances in the county), where the nave is of good 14th cent. design, shows that there was an earlier tower then in use, probably of round Norm. design. The wide arch at the E. end opens into a chancel that has now no windows save a three-light one over the altar, the tracery of which has been renewed, but the jambs show it to be coeval with the nave. The small embattled W. tower is of 13th cent. date; it lacks buttresses and has no special feature. The S. porch is of the same period. The S. doorway into the church and the blocked-up one in the opposite N. wall correspond with the rest of the nave; the woodwork of the S. door is old.

The nave is roofed with dilapidated moss-grown thatch and the chancel with slate; the inner walls of the former are liberally marked

with streaks of damp green, and the whole building has a most forlorn appearance. The octagonal font is well ornamented with 15th cent. tracery. In the N. wall, close to the W. end, is a recess that served in former days as a locker for a processional cross and banner staves, and has been fitted with a door. It is 9 feet high by 2 feet wide, and is 18 inches deep. In the N. wall of the nave is the doorway to the rood-loft. Parts of the base of the rood-screen remain; the carving has been good, but is now much dilapidated, and smeared with modern paint. In the nave are fourteen old bench seats of the end of the 15th cent., with fairly good poppy heads; they are much spoilt by the liberal use of modern paint, and by backs of cheap deal. (Registers, 1616.)

Paston.—The church of St. Margaret, hid away among trees on rising ground half a mile from the sea, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel is slated, but the nave thatched. The building is throughout of Dec. or 14th cent. date. The plain font and the iron-bound chest, with carved top and three locks, are of the same period. The chancel looks bleak and bare; the sedilia are spoilt by a table-tomb. Mr. Keyser mentions (1883) that the rood-screen was “varnished over”; it is said to have been richly painted.

The church is celebrated for the monuments of the Paston family, the chief of which are to Erasmus Paston and Mary, his wife, 1538 (a brass), and to Lady Catherine Paston by a notable sculptor, Nathaniel Stone, which cost, in 1629, the then vast sum of £340. The Hall, where the Pastons long resided till their removal to Oxnead (which see), has long since disappeared, but an immense old timber barn pertaining to it is still standing near the church. (Registers, 1538.)

Potter Heigham.—The church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, clerestoried nave of four bays, N. and S. aisles, S. porch, and W. round tower. The tower, up to the apex of the lofty roof of the nave, is of Norm. date. It was raised in the 14th cent. by the addition of a handsome embattled octagon; the bell-chamber windows alternate with arcades of like pattern. It forms the most effective 14th cent. continuation of a Norm. tower to be found in the county. The chancel and nave are thatched, and the aisles leaded. All the windows of the aisles are of square-headed late 15th cent. style. The aisle buttresses, however, show distinctly the body of this church was rebuilt in the 14th cent. The main features of the chancel are also of the same cent.

The church was also considerably altered and rebuilt about the end of the 15th cent. The nave arcades of four arches on each side

are of that date. They are surmounted by clerestory walls of unusual height, which are pierced with six of the largest three-light pointed clerestory windows that can be found in any English parish church of this size. The 15th cent. S. porch, with room over, is specially noteworthy as an example of the ornamental use of brick-work. It is in the main of flint and stone work, but there are two small pointed brick windows over the entrance on each side of an image niche of like construction. Within this niche has inappropriately been placed a large half-length figure, rudely carved in white stone, of a wild man with a club. Possibly it may have served elsewhere as a gargoyle; but it has, by an amusing misapprehension, been taken to be a figure of St. Nicholas! The single hammer-beam roof of the nave is of admirable construction, with delicate carving on the wall plates and in the spandrels. The lean-to roofs of the aisles are of the same date. There is a tie-beam across the E. end of the nave, almost at the apex of the chancel arch; the space between this beam, about 6 feet, and the top of the rood-screen, has evidently been, at one time, filled up with panelling. The beautiful screen retains the saints painted on the lower panels in unusually good condition. They represent Sts. Mark, Luke, John, Eligius, and the four Fathers of the Church.

Various interesting wall-paintings discovered have been shamelessly re-whitewashed.

There are several poppy-head bench-ends in the body of the church. The Laudian altars, of good bold design, have been unfortunately removed and cut up to form fronts to the quire stalls, a modern single rail, on cast-iron supports, taking their place. At the W. end of the church is a three-locked chest, dated 1685. There is a small niche on the S. side of the altar, and a large, high, square-headed recess on the N. side, which was probably occupied by an Easter sepulchre of wooden construction.

A special and most unusual feature of this church is the octagonal 15th cent. font of brick ; it is not only interesting, but really effective and clever in design ; and as it has, of course, a lead lining, there is nothing unseemly in its use. The bricks, for which the clay of *Potter* Heigham used to be celebrated, are of the smaller kind, which are characteristic of that date. There are a few special mouldings introduced to form the quatrefoils of the font panels. Overhead, in the apex of the roof, may be noticed the old wooden pulley to raise and lower the font cover, which has long since disappeared. Under the altar is a brass to Richard Baispoole gentleman, who died in 1613 ; the lettering is exceptionally good for

the date. There are several good ledger stones on the chancel floor, the oldest of which is to Clement Atwood, M.A., vicar, who died in 1699. (Registers, 1538.)

Ridlington.—The church of St. Peter consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The chancel roof is thatched and the nave slated. The octagonal font, with a plain round shaft, is 15th cent. The building is in the main of 15th cent. date, though the windows have plain intersecting tracery. The end of the chancel has been rebuilt in red brick. There are four figures on the embattled parapet of the tower in the place of pinnacles. On the N. side of the chancel arch is a small upper rood-loft doorway. On the N. side of the chancel is a low side window. The S. window nearest the altar has a lowered sill to serve for sedilia. The church was restored in 1884, and three new windows inserted in 1895. (Registers, 1559.)

Ruston, East.—The church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle and porch, and W. tower. The arcade of five arches is of Dec. date. The chancel is also in the main Dec.; it was "restored" by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners after a poor fashion in 1887. There is no archway into the tower, but merely a small pointed doorway of the date of the main fabric. The woodwork of the door is original. The

other features of the church are 15th cent., with later patchwork, such as the brick wall of the N. of the nave. The tower of three stages has no W. door ; its place is taken by an image niche. It used to be crowned with a lead-covered spire. The octagonal Perp. font was restored in 1884. The upper panels are carved with the Evangelistic symbols, alternating with quaint heads. Although the upper tracery of the rood-screen has been broken away, the woodwork and painting of the lower portion has been better preserved than in most of the Norfolk examples. The panels on the S. side have the four Latin Doctors ; on the N. side are equally good representations of the four Evangelists. In the chancel is a lowered sill to serve for sedilia. (Registers, 1558.)

Ruston, South (or Sco Ruston).—The small church of St. Michael consists of chancel, nave, and S. porch. The square western tower of 15th cent. has long been in ruins ; its remains are now covered with ivy. The W. end of the church has been built up a short distance clear of the tower, many of the quoin stones of the tower having been obviously used in its construction. There are now but three bays to the nave, and two to the chancel. The nave and chancel are under a continuous roof, and there is no chancel arch. The buttresses, S. and N. doorways, and most of the windows are

Dec. date. There is a projection in the S. wall where the rood-loft stairway used to be. The fairly good collar-braced roof, with embattled wall plates, is of 15th cent. date. A few other alterations were made in the fabric during that period, as well as the construction of the now ruined tower. There is a single old carved seat with poppy-head bench-ends. The special feature of the church is the 15th cent. S. door of the church, which is remarkable for bearing in the centre outer panel a raised inscription in black-letter text, recording that it was the gift of Stephan Bolte and Eleanor his wife. (Registers, 1708.)

Sloley.—The church of St. Bartholomew consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The ground-plan of this church is unusual, for the tower is at the W. end of the N. aisle. The W. side of the tower must be of 13th cent. date, for it bears the weather-mouldings of a former high-pitched roof, where there is now only the lean-to roof of the aisle. The church was enlarged in Dec. days, when the former nave became the N. aisle. The narrow doorway of the S. entrance and the disused N. doorway are of the first half of the 14th cent. In the latter part of the 15th cent. there were considerable alterations. To that period belong the other windows of the church, the arcades on each side of the nave, with

the clerestories above them, and the greater part of the W. tower with its two angular buttresses. The octagonal 15th cent. font is sculptured with the Seven Sacraments. There are several brasses. (Registers, 1560.)

Smallburgh.—The church of St. Peter, approached from the W. through a beautiful avenue of sycamores, consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and a W. bell-cote. The tower fell in 1677. The nave has three good windows, on each side, of early Perp. date. The plain S. porch and the N. doorway opposite are of the same date. The chancel is of similar design, with two windows on each side. The church was restored in 1885, and again in 1902, when the original length of the nave was renewed. The sill of the easternmost S. window of the chancel is cut down to form sedilia. The piscina niche just beyond is exceptionally graceful, being of ogee shape, with pierced quatrefoils in the spandrels. The font has a plain octagonal bowl; the base, divided by shafts, is 15th cent., but it is possible that the upper part is older. There are remains of the rood-loft stairs in the N.E. angle of the nave; and there are also marks in the chancel arch where joists have supported the passage to the rood-loft. The base of the screen remains, with eight saints painted on the panels; those on the S. side are much obliterated, five can

be identified—namely, Sts. Anthony, Benedict, George, Giles, and Laurence. At the W. end of the nave is a strongly clamped chest, nearly 6 feet in length, of the same date as the fabric. The wide roof of the nave was painted in good taste in 1902. (Registers, 1561.)

Stalham.—The church of St. Mary, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower, has been much over-restored. The chancel was rebuilt in 1886, when the painted panels of the screen (Sts. Andrew, Thomas of Canterbury, Edward the Confessor, Edward K. and M., Roch, and Francis) were removed to the vicarage! The stairs to the rood-loft remain at the end of the N. aisle. There are good holy-water stoups by both N. and S. entrances. The octagonal 15th cent. font is finely carved with Apostles, and with the Baptism and Crucifixion of Our Lord; but it was much restored in 1864. There is a brass to a civilian and his wife (*c.* 1460), and another to the Riches family of the 17th cent. (Registers, 1561.)

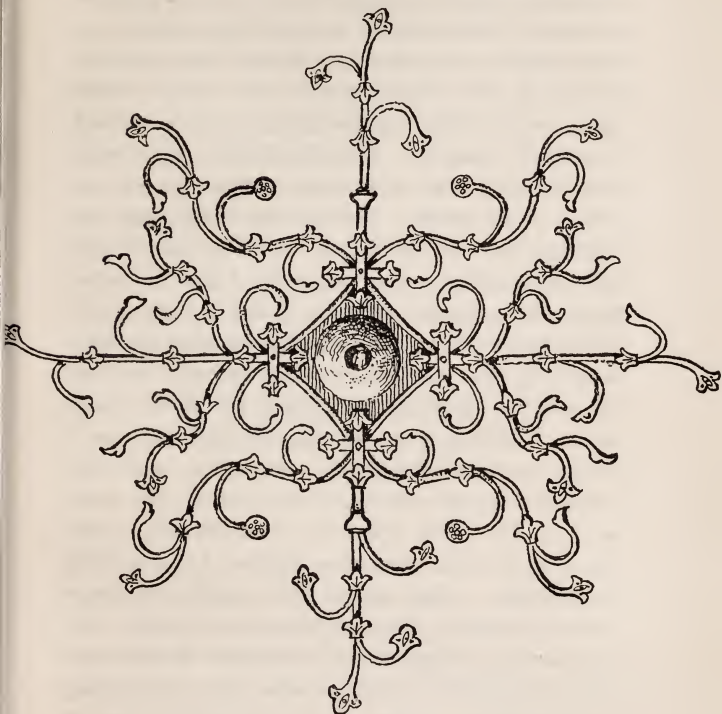
Sutton.—The church of St. Michael, much restored in 1891, consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, and W. tower. The whole of the old parts of the present fabric is of 15th cent. date. The S. porch has had an upper room, but is now open to the roof. The easternmost window on the S. of the chancel has

the sill lowered to serve as a sedilia. The octagonal font of the 15th cent. has tracery on the panels. (Registers, 1558.)

Swafeld.—The late 15th cent. church of St. Nicholas consists of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower. The nave is thatched and the chancel slated. The rood-loft stairs are on the N. side. The base of the old screen remains, with the following Apostles painted on the panels—Sts. Andrew, Peter, Jude, Simon, James the Great, John, Thomas, and James the Less. The E. wall of the tower shows the weather-mouldings of the roof of an earlier and much smaller church. The archway into the tower is 13th cent. The upper stages of the tower are Perp., but the base is E.E. (Registers, 1660.)

Tunstead.—The fine and highly interesting church of St. Mary consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. The tower and the body of the church, with its windows, N. and S. doorways, and lofty arcades, appear to be late Dec., towards the close of Edward III.'s reign, but the windows and other features of the three bays of the large chancel are Perp. of early 15th cent. The tower of three stages has a good W. doorway, and there is an unusual amount of freestone combined with the flint. The S. porch of dressed flints was rebuilt in 1864, when there was extensive restoration. The fine and graceful ironwork on the S. door

(c. 1370), branching out to the extent of 4 feet from a central boss, is the best and most striking



Ironwork on S. door, Tunstead

of its kind in all England. The rood-screen is lofty and has lighter kinds of openings, as at Worstead and Swanton Abbot. On the panels

of the base are figures of the Apostles (omitting St. Matthias), St. Paul, and the four Latin Doctors. A portion of the coving of the rood-loft remains on the W. side, whilst several feet above it is the painted rood-beam, supported by spandrels. On the S. side of the chancel are three sedilia and piscina niche surmounted by ogee-shaped, crocketed canopies. But the highly remarkable and literally unique feature of the chancel remains to be noted. Behind the altar, and extending the whole width of the chancel (30 feet), is a raised stone platform 6 feet 3 inches high; its present width is 3 feet 4 inches, but it has been 4 feet, ugly modern reredos arrangements having spoiled it of 8 inches. At the N. end the platform is gained by seven steep steps. Three steps at the S. end lead to a small pointed doorway; the door, with its original hinges and lock, is of late 15th cent. work. The door opens on a small cell, 3 feet wide, within the platform, lighted by a grating from above. The use of this notable platform and cell below it has not been ascertained. Of the various suggestions, the most foolish and quite impossible is that it was for representing miracle plays. The most probable is that it was designed for the keeping and occasional exhibition of some important relic or relics. There are several old seats both in chancel and nave; it ought also to be mentioned that a

stone bench runs round the walls of both aisles. (Registers, 1678.)

Walcott.—The church of All Saints, consisting of chancel, nave, S. porch, and W. tower, is of 15th cent. design throughout, of the usual dressed flint with stone groins and panelling. There are three large windows each side of the nave. The tracery of the chancel windows seems somewhat earlier, but the jamb mouldings are identical with those of the nave. The lofty W. tower, with angle buttresses and handsome pedimented battlements, is a good example of the Norfolk style of this district. A somewhat peculiar feature (to be seen also at Barton Turf) is the angular projection on the S. face to cover the turret stairway; it is lighted by small square openings traceried in quatrefoils. The 13th cent. font has a Purbeck marble octagonal bowl channelled with arcades, supported on a central shaft, with smaller ones around it. The chancel screen is mainly new, but incorporates a little 15th cent. work. (Registers, 1558.)

North Walsham.—The large church of St. Nicholas of this old market-town stands in the midst of a square of houses. It has a length of 159 feet, and the tower with spire used to be 147 feet high. Much of the massive tower, however, fell in 1724, and its downfall was completed in 1835. Great sums of money were spent during

the second half of last cent., but it is highly discreditable to town, parish, and diocese that this once fine tower has been allowed to remain a sorry heap of ruins for now nearly two centuries. Most of the architecture is Perp., but some late Dec. remains. The large E. window and the E. windows of the aisles are now filled with flamboyant tracery. The base of the old rood-screen has panel paintings of the following saints — the Apostles, omitting St. Matthias, the Blessed Virgin, an Archangel, and Sts. Mary of Egypt (or Wilgefortis), Catherine, Paul, Barbara, Margaret, and Mary Magdalene. Note also the well-carved, pre-Reformation pulpit; the arched font cover, rising in four tiers; some old stalls; a large 15th cent. chest, entirely covered with iron bands, and having ten locks; and the palimpsest royal arms of Charles II., having those of the Commonwealth on the back. The S. porch is a handsome piece of work, with chequers of ashlar and flints. On the N. side of the chancel is the cumbersome tomb of Sir William Paston, of Paston, 1608, the founder of the Grammar School. (Registers, 1557.)

Waxham.—The church of St. John consists of nave, S. porch, and W. tower; the chancel is in ruins. Most of the walls of the chancel are standing, but it is roofless, and the windows lack tracery. The sill of the easternmost S.

window is lowered to serve for sedilia. There are no windows on the N. side of the nave save a small lancet, $3\frac{1}{4}$ feet by 8 inches, widely splayed, of a date towards the beginning of the 13th cent. A similar small window on the S. side is blocked up. The other windows of the S. wall are deeply splayed, and have plain intersecting mullions, pointing to the Dec. period. The porch has a plain niche over it, with a row of seven uncharged shields below it. The porch is the best feature of this fabric. The 15th cent. tower is dilapidated, and has no battlements left. There are four sound-holes; the large bell-chamber windows lack tracery and are blocked up. The W. window of the basement is in the same plight. On the N. side of the interior of the church, under an arch, is a projecting table-tomb, having five panels in front. Unfortunately it has been defaced, like most of the church, with a liberal smear of pink-coloured plaster. About the middle of the N. wall is a tall, narrow locker, 8 feet high, originally used for the processional cross and banner staves. The font, which is liberally plastered over, is an octagon of the 15th cent.; the panels are carved in quatrefoils. The church (in a miserable plight when seen in 1904) is much disfigured with damp. (Registers, 1763.)

Westwick.—The church of St. Botolph

consists of chancel, nave with aisles, S. porch, and W. tower. A considerable work of restoration was effected at the bad date of 1845. The body of the church and the chancel are 14th cent., but are somewhat confused by the restoration. The tower is a fine example, *c.* 1475, with good sound-holes. The base mouldings are noteworthy, and show in quatrefoils some of the emblems of the Passion; the buttresses and parapet are also well panelled in flint work. The rood-screen has some beautiful fine tracery, but apparently a good deal restored; the panels bear the twelve Apostles. There is a good octagonal font, with four lions at the base. The church stands in the beautiful park of Westwick. (Registers, 1642.)

Witton-by-Walsham.—The church of St. Margaret consists of chancel, nave, S. aisle, S. porch, tower, and modern vestry. This retired village church possesses architectural features of various periods. In the N. wall of the nave are two small circular, double-splayed windows that are of undoubted pre-Norm. date. They are about 15 feet from the ground and only 6 or 7 inches in diameter, whilst the diameter of the circular splay is about 18 inches. These two openings form part of a range of upper unglazed windows of an early church of the 10th or late 9th cent. The tower is a round Norm. example; the upper stage, in

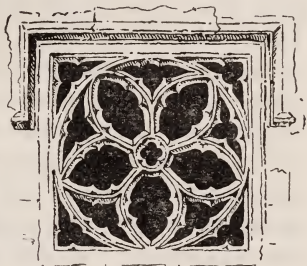
which bricks are mingled with the pebbles, is a 15th cent. addition. On the S. side of the chancel are two sedilia of different levels, with dog-tooth mouldings, of late 13th cent. date. The arcade of five arches between the aisle and the nave is *c.* 1360–70. This, too, is the date of the S. windows of the aisle, the E. and W. windows of which have been recently renewed. The church underwent considerable alterations towards the end of the 15th cent., when the walls of the nave were raised and small clere-story windows inserted, six on each side. It is quite unusual to find clerestory windows without an aisle beneath, as is the case on the N. side of this church. The lofty arch into the chancel is of the same date, and also the small archway into the tower. The chancel underwent a considerable and much too extensive restoration in 1875. The octagonal Dec. font has its panels carved with quatrefoils. Wall-paintings of St. Christopher and St. George, of a great size, were found in this church in 1859, but they were speedily, to the disgrace of those concerned, obliterated. On the floor of the chancel are three brass inscriptions. One of these requests our prayers for the soul of Thomas Calke, who died in 1519. The second marks the place of the interment of Henry Hemsley, a former vicar of this church, but no date is given. The third is as follows: “Heare

lyeth berried the boddys of Thomas Parmenter and Francis his wife who weare married 47 year together, and Thomas Parmenter died 12 days before Hollimvs 1631. His wife died one St. Stevens day 1627." This last inscription is of special interest as giving an unusual alias for Christmas, derived, it may be supposed, from the general and ancient use of holly at that season in English churches. (Registers, 1721.)

Worstead, now a village of a single street, was once more populous and the centre of the woollen district of East Anglia, giving its name to *worsted* cloth and thread. About the close of Edward III.'s reign, the well-to-do merchants and weavers of this flourishing community bethought them that their church was not worthy of their prosperity. The work of rebuilding on a noble scale began with the chancel in 1379, and when completed, the church of St. Mary—with chancel 39 feet by 29 feet 3 inches, nave 89 feet by 29 feet, aisles nearly 12 feet wide, and grand W. tower rising to 109 feet—became one of the finest and most capacious buildings of the county. The nave is separated from the aisles by lofty arcades of five arches; above them is a row of well-proportioned clerestory windows. A decidedly exceptional feature in the structure of a church of this size and age is the use of flying buttresses from the aisle walls to the nave

clerestory These flying arches appear to have been added at a somewhat later date to resist the thrust of the nave roof. The noble porch has a beautiful triple group of niches with crocketed canopies over the entrance. The groined roof supports an upper chamber. The central boss of the groining represents the Holy Trinity, and the four

subsidiary ones bear the symbols of the four Evangelists. The tower is about the best example of the flint and stone work of the dawn of the 15th cent. in the county. At the base are panelled arcades,



Sound-hole, Worstead

and above them a line of large quatrefoils filled up with dressed flints. The large square sound-holes of the second stage have most graceful tracery. The parapet pinnacles are obviously out of character and too heavy ; they date from 1861. The large vestry on the N. side of the chancel, with priest's chamber above, was added to the building, *c.* 1460. On the chancel walls are two consecration crosses elaborately painted, and of the unusual size of 2 feet in diameter. The octagonal font, finely sculptured with beautiful tracery, has the bowl encircled with

angels with outspread wings ; it has a lofty but somewhat plain cover. The aisles have large stone pedestals for images at the E. end of almost all the window-sills. At the E. end of the N. chancel chapel are two large pedestals for images. The altar pace between them retains its original elevation. Above is the delicately painted wooden framework of a former reredos. This is the chapel of St. John Baptist ; on the S. side of the chancel is the chapel of Our Lady. The remains of the screens are most noteworthy. The rood-screen now bears an inscription in small black-letter, stating that it was erected in 1511 by John Arblaster and Agnes his wife. The painted panels depict the following saints—Vir Doloris, St. Paul, St. James the Less, St. Philip, St. Simon, St. Jude, St. Matthias, St. John, St. Andrew, St. Peter, St. James the Great, St. Austin, St. Bartholomew, St. Jerome, St. William, and St. Wilgefortis. Unhappily all these panels were taken out and much repainted by a curate and another local worthy some thirty or forty years ago, and are practically new and spoilt work. The two last saints are merely foolish modern fancies. A series of beautiful coloured drawings by Mr. Dawson Turner, done in 1832–34, show the original state of panels, and also prove that the present inscription is another modern and erroneous conjecture, and that the true date is

1512 instead of 1511 (see British Museum Add. MSS., 73,049 ; also a long illustrated article by the present writer in the *Builder* of 7th February 1903). The screens at the ends of the aisles, separating them from the quire chapels, were also richly painted. On the panels of the S. screen, according to the Dawson Turner drawings, were Sts. Peter, Paul, John Baptist, and Stephen ; whilst those of the N. screen were Sts. Bartholomew, Philip, Laurence, and Sixtus. At the W. end of the church there is a gallery under the tower supported on painted and carved wooden pillars. In front of this is a good screen. The English inscription on it is as follows : " This werke was made in y^e yer of God MCCCCCL at y^e propyr cost of y^e cantell of y^e chyrche of Worsted callyd y^e bachellers lyte y^t God preserve wth all the benefactors of y^e same now and ever, Amen. Than wer husbondes (wardens) Christofyr Kat and Jefrey Dey." The old panel paintings of this screen were unfortunately obliterated in 1831 to make way for some very feeble copies of "the Virtues" of Sir Joshua Reynolds. Against the aisle walls are some remains of black-letter text adornments of Elizabethan days ; here and there portions of the original wall-paintings can be detected beneath the text. In the lower vestry are a series of rubbings of brasses, mainly inscriptions, that used

to be in the church, but some have disappeared. The oldest is an inscription to John Yop, 1420. There is another inscription to Sir Robert Camounde, 1482. (Registers, 1558.)

END OF VOL. I

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